



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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Inter-Arab Affairs

GCC Foreign Ministers Meet Perez de Cuellar

JN0410160690 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1750 GMT
3 Oct 90

[Text] New York, 3 Oct (WAKH)—Foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member states met in New York today with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The meeting falls within the framework of the bilateral and collective meetings and consultations held by the GCC foreign ministers with the foreign ministers of the European, Asian, and Latin American states and groups to discuss the effects and developments of the Iraqi military invasion of the State of Kuwait and the dangerous situation in the region.

The GCC foreign ministers discussed with the international official the Gulf crisis created by the Iraqi military invasion of the State of Kuwait. They also discussed the regional and international measures and arrangements that have been taken so far to end the Iraqi occupation of the State of Kuwait and to secure the return of the legitimate government under the amir of Kuwait. His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

The ministers also reviewed with Javier Perez de Cuellar the topics on the agenda of the current session of the United Nations, and the role played by the UN secretary-general to enhance peace and security in the world.

Arab Foreign Ministers Meet Tunisian Counterpart

LD0410204590 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Habib Boulares, foreign affairs minister, confirmed during the meeting held by the Arab group at the United Nations yesterday that the Arab League issue is not an issue between Egypt and Tunisia; rather it concerns an Arab decision made last March. He added during the meeting—held in New York at the foreign ministerial level—that Tunisia has reservations concerning the resolutions of the extraordinary session of the League held in Cairo, but that it adheres to the resolutions issued last March by the Arab League Council, which enjoyed unanimity.

The foreign minister also added that Tunisia's proposal to hold the ordinary 94th session of the Arab League in Tunis stems from the desire not to cause splits or problems in considering the remarks made by Tunisia regarding the extraordinary session.

It is worth mentioning that the Arab foreign ministers agreed, during their meeting yesterday morning at UN headquarters in New York, to hold a meeting of the permanent delegates to the Arab League in Tunis on 22 October to discuss administrative and financial matters which concern the Arab League. They also agreed to continue consultations on fixing the date and place of another meeting at foreign minister level. It was also learned that it was agreed that the Palestine delegation should prepare a draft resolution on the situation in the occupied Arab territories, to be presented to the Security Council in the coming few days. Yemen is to present the draft resolution, in its capacity as the Arab member of the Security Council, following consultations with the Arab delegations. [passage omitted]

The meeting was the first at such a level since 2 August, and was attended by 20 Arab countries. In the end only Iraq stayed away from the meeting.

Algeria

Ghazali Meets With Shevardnadze, Arab Ministers

LD0410142690 Algiers APS in English 1326 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] New York, 4/10/90 (APS)—Foreign Minister, Sid Ahmed Ghazali, conferred here with his Soviet counterpart, Eduard Shevardnadze. The two ministers exchanged views on the process of reforms going on in Algeria and the Soviet Union and with the Gulf crisis. The two ministers agreed on the necessity to bring their contribution for a solution in conformity with the fundamental interests of the international community and which would preserve the higher interests of the Arab nation.

Ghazali pointed out that "the peaceful settlement of the Gulf crisis offers an opportunity for the UN to gain other victories of peace throughout the world and reinforce the credibility of a new international political order.

The two ministers further (expressed satisfaction) about the excellent multilateral relations and called for a qualitative improvement of cooperation between the two countries.

Moreover, Ghazali attended a meeting of Arab foreign ministers who are in New York in the frame of the 45th UN General Assembly and which centered on questions related to the transfer of the Arab League and the possibility to hold the ordinary session of the Arab League. This meeting enabled the Arab group to assess the action undertaken by the Arab Tripartite Committee on Lebanon and was followed by a wide debate.

Bendjedid Receives Message From Yemeni President

LD0410150190 Algiers APS in English 1324 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Algiers, 4/10/90 (APS)—President Chadli Bendjedid received Wednesday [3 October] here the Yemeni minister of water and electricity, 'Abd al-Wahab Mahmud, who handed him a message from President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

Prime Minister Makes Statement on New Measures

LD0410225490 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1843 GMT 4 Oct 90

["Text" of radio and television statement by Prime Minister Mouloud Hamrouche made on 4 October—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. May God's prayers and benedictions be upon the noblest of the messengers.

During the last few days, a number of political stances have been adopted and a number of statements have been made to express a number of postures and a

number of aspirations. Among these statements and stances was the latest statement and the latest stance of the speaker of the National People's Assembly following his resignation.

The stance in itself does not need any comment. However, the reasons and analysis which were put forward to justify such a decision and such a stance require that the head of the government and the government—since the latter is concerned about such justifications—express the government's view in this respect.

First, as far as the economic reforms are concerned: We should all remember that the economic reforms are a number of laws which were drawn up, discussed, and adopted by the National People's Assembly in 1988. However, there has been a number of additional and complementary laws adopted during the first six months of this year.

Any expression and assertion of an antireforms stance today is seen by me and by the government as contrary to the stances which were adopted over the past three years, since the beginning of the discussion of the draft laws which were eventually adopted and are being implemented. So what is new in these reforms?

Two things are new: First, the government hastened the pace of the implementation and application of these laws because we believe that laws are formulated with the aim of implementation, and not with the aim of placing them in libraries or on desks. Thus, the government hastened to implement these laws, and these laws are, of course, economic measures. This is the new thing.

The second thing is the issue of combating corruption. These new laws, which were added to the first six year plan, fall within the context of combating corruption and we said that this campaign against corruption covers all fields: In the first place, the agricultural field and all the citizens in all the provinces, especially all the brother farmers, including the nationalized ones, realize that the operation to combat corruption continues in all seriousness and severity and that we will not be lenient with any excesses, any concessions, any connections. All the brothers in all these provinces are acquainted with the files and the names. We even decided to publish and display all the names of those who unjustly benefited from agricultural land. This is the new thing in the reform.

The second [as heard] aspect of the reform, that is the rehabilitation of wholesale and commercial agencies—an operation which has begun—has stirred up the sensitivity of those who will lose hidden and illegal concessions. Let all the brother citizens remember my speech on the program "Meeting the Press" early this year, when I spoke about who benefits from the black market operation, who benefits and who is behind the black market. Let all the brothers remember that I referred to this matter and those who had made themselves custodians of external trade, custodians of the savings and wages of immigrants who used to transfer to Algeria almost 10 billion French francs, and who now send no

more than 150 million francs. As to the remainder, it is passing through this illegal gap which sucks the blood of the youths being exploited to carry baggage [goods from abroad to be sold on the black market] and the exploited brother immigrants [words indistinct]. With this new measure—and this is the new thing, the measure of openness, the measure of right—we have said that anyone who wants to practice commerce should openly declare his name and put up a sign saying that he is practicing this profession.

The government was even accused of wanting to allow those people to launder their money. However, they discovered in the end that they would not be able to launder their money because they were then faced with two choices. They could either make themselves known to the public directly by disclosing their addresses, and consequently quite a large number of masks would fall and public opinion would be surprised to see the names of the people who own that money—something that they rejected—or they could refrain once and for all from conducting illicit trade. This would obviously close the doors in front of them and they would no longer make illicit gains.

This is also one of the reasons behind the present agitation about some of the reforms and about the speeding up of the reforms. Regarding the purging of people, we said that we never denied nor will we even deny that we are the sons of the Liberation Front despite the tendentious rumors and statements that we only pretend to belong to the Front. The truth is that we fully belong to this Front but it must be a front which rids itself of the sediment, a front which rids itself of hypocrites and the corrupt. Naturally, the modernization process disturbs these people, and the front of purity for which we are calling also disturbs these anxious people. These are the reasons behind the maneuvering and the statements about the government, the reforms, and the exploitation of a given set of circumstances.

We are determined to continue the march because we sincerely believe in Algeria's interest. We are not at all interested in furthering the interests of individuals, nor are we concerned about our own interest. Even if we are doomed to leave this post within the next 24 hours, we will devote these remaining 24 hours to work, work for Algeria, work primarily for the youth, this youth the hopes and future of which have been killed, which has been marginalized, and which has been subjected to attempts to eliminate it once and for all. We will endeavor to restore to the youth and to Algeria their consideration, hopes, and ambitions. Thus, Algeria will keep its head high. We are also determined to continue our efforts to take all measures to provide the material and social conditions and provide security and tranquility so that the forthcoming elections are held in an atmosphere of safety, peace, concord, and clarity. So, Algeria of the illusions is over and a thing of the past. Today it is the Algeria of truth, Algeria of youth, Algeria of integrity, and Algeria of democracy. Thank you.

National Assembly Elects Belkhadem Speaker

LD0410135290 Algiers APS in English 1337 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Algiers, 4/10/90 (APS)—The members of the People's National Assembly elected Thursday [4 October] here Abdelaziz Belkhadem as chairman of the Assembly in replacement of Rabah Bitat who presented Wednesday his resignation.

Bitat Comments on Resignation Decision

LD0410143690 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Mr. Rabah Bitat, chairman of the National People's Assembly, submitted his resignation from his post as chairman yesterday at the opening meeting of the autumn session, while staying on as an ordinary representative in the Assembly.

After the announcement, the meeting was suspended so the Assembly bureau will be able to hold a meeting to discuss the situation resulting from the resignation.

Mr. Rabah Bitat said that his decision to resign was irreversible. Concerning the causes of his resignation from his post as speaker, Mr. Rabah Bitat said:

[Begin Bitat recording] I made this decision for the sole reason that, from 5 October until today, I have spoken once or twice here at the Assembly and this has had a limited response from the brother pressmen. This is a modest comment. I have, in fact, mentioned twice that I am ready [to go] and lift the pressure from both the Assembly and myself. [passage omitted]

My own opinion is that at this time the Assembly has two things it can examine: the election draft law and the budget draft law, even though the budget draft law came to us [the Assembly, from the government] [words indistinct] is not the sufficient number for [word indistinct] for the representatives. [Words indistinct] leave it to the coming Assembly, because these questions interest everyone. We should not show contempt for everything, and we can leave room for the coming Assembly. God willing, the National Liberation Front will win the elections with an overall majority or in association with other [political] movements, and will possibly be able to lead the country. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Egypt

Mubarak Address Marks October War Anniversary

NC0410131590 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0922 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Speech by President Hosni Mubarak at the International Conference Center in Naze City in Cairo on the anniversary of the October 1973 war—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Brother compatriots, brother sons, and men of the Armed Forces, ladies and gentlemen.

My speech to you on the anniversary of the October war is my speech to the people. The people have never been separated from their Armed Forces. [applause] The Armed Forces have always expressed the people's will to defend their fate and existence against any aggression or oppression. The best example is the immortal October epic. The domestic front throughout the homeland became a second military front. The citizens in all cities, villages, and houses acted as a strong and firm shield, giving support to the heroic fighters. The heroes on the battlefield shouted the call Allah akbar [God is great] from the bottom of their hearts as they stormed death; liberated the land; and raised the banners of dignity, pride, and patriotism. The citizens in every spot in the Nile valley formed one cohesive force and performed their duties with full faith that right would triumph over wrong, and with all confidence in their sons and brothers who were advancing in the battle toward victory. These fighters restored to the Arab nation its dignity and pride and cleaned the national soil from the invaders' feet. The immortal October epic, throughout the entire homeland, was a brilliant picture of the people's cohesion with their Armed Forces in the biggest battle of destiny.

Dear brothers, we were at a crossroads—either we would exist or we would not exist; either we would remove the shame or we would live with bowed heads, humiliated by occupation and defeat; either we would hold our heads high and live like freemen on our free land, or we would accept humiliation with a robbed will and sad eyes. Our valiant Armed Forces proved that we are able to exist, [applause] that we are worthy of a dignified life, and that we can impose our decision and will. We adopted the course of dignity, pride, and sovereignty. Our Armed Forces rejuvenated their resources, doubled their preparations, and developed their strength so that they would always be a shield and a bastion in any emergency. The struggling people began to rebuild to compensate for what they missed, to provide for their sons opportunities for honest work, to keep pace with the race of enormous scientific progress, and to ensure that Egyptian citizens would exercise their constitutional right to participate in making decisions, free of fear and master of their land and decisions. From a position of strength, dignity, and self-confidence, we stormed the battle of peace, which was a noble objective.

We sought peace prior to the October war, but the world turned a deaf ear to our sincere call. The forces of tyranny wanted us to surrender, not obtain peace. They were deceiving themselves with the illusion that we had become a lifeless corpse and would not be able to act for at least another 50 years. The major powers were similarly deceived and were astonished that the defeated should set conditions as though they were victorious. Even friends maintained that we were asking for the impossible because, in their view, we needed a nuclear bomb to cross the immense existing barriers, and it was

not possible for us to obtain that. No friend or opponent imagined that we could achieve a military miracle. Thus they consigned us only to the option of submission and acknowledgement of the fait accompli. We responded with the decision to go to war. It was the late President Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat [applause] who had the courage to adopt his decision in very difficult and harsh circumstances. History's bright pages will record that al-Sadat made the decision for war out of his faith in his responsibility for our destiny and his confidence in the Egyptian combatant's ability and valor. Later he made the decision for peace when we were at the peak of victory. This proceeded from our faith in our responsibility for our destiny and for reconstruction.

Thus the Egyptian Armed Forces achieved victory in war and in peace. Egypt's people stood in united, cohesive ranks—supporting war and calling for peace.

What, however, is history's description of the October war? It was not a war of expansion and aggression. It was not a war of greed and tyranny. It was not a war involving aggression against others' sovereignty and the invasion of their territory. It was not a war of the strong bullying the weak. It was not a betrayal of good neighborliness. It was not a war of rape and displacement. The October war was the liberation of territory from its usurper and the regaining of national soil from those who had violated it. It was a war of liberty and national sovereignty. It was a war of pan-Arab dignity. The glorious October victory was a triumph for the entire Arab nation [applause] that raised heads high and restored joy to broken hearts and presented to the world an image of a courageous and honorable Arab who rejects injustice, defies the arrogance of power, and defends his land and honor. This is the most dignified image that inspires respect.

When we then sought peace, all the international forces that respected a strong people who wanted to spare humanity the calamities of further wars and devote all their capabilities to human progress, supported and assisted us.

It behooves us today to remember all these events in order to benefit from the experience and understand its lessons. It behooves us to remember these morals today while we face very grave events that haunt our thoughts day and night and weary our minds. We are doing our utmost to spare the Arab land a vicious war. All reasonable people realize how devastating and bloody its consequences and effects would be.

You all remember how these serious events began on 2 August with a surprise armed invasion of Kuwait by the Iraqi armed forces. In Egypt, we had not been expecting this armed invasion by one Arab country of an independent and sovereign Arab neighbor, particularly after the Iraqi president had given me a promise and commitment. Subsequent events made it clear that the aggression had been premeditated. The negotiations [between Iraq and Kuwait] failed before actually beginning, and

the invasion occurred only hours after the negotiators returned to their respective capitals. Nevertheless, and right from the beginning, we did not wish to take one party's side against the other. Indeed we called for an Arab solution under the Arab League umbrella, relying on the Iraqi president's commitment on the invasion day that the invading forces would withdraw within a few days or weeks.

At the same time we had to respond to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's appeal to send Egyptian forces to help defend its territory against any aggression. This happened after Saudi Arabia lost confidence in the Iraqi president's promises and after it was compelled, in light of the threatening Iraqi moves, to request foreign forces. To make such a request is the undeniable right of a sovereign country whose duty is to defend its security, territory, and people. Beyond this, we did not for one day halt our contacts with Arab and international parties in an attempt to make the Iraqi president abandon his ominous stand that rendered void all the principles he had professed and which inspired us to join the Arab Cooperation Council.

However, I state before you, very regrettably, that the obstinacy is increasing. It is not obstinacy vis-a-vis the Arab nation alone, but an obstinacy by which the Iraqi leadership has provoked a profound antagonism with all countries, chiefly the major powers who have united in one stand for the first time. It was a stand made imperative by norm, law, and the new international order which chose detente instead of conflict and agreed to build peace instead of threatening war. It is an order that is now clearly supported by billions of people all over the world because mankind is now seeking a stable and permanent peace as a priority objective.

The leadership's responsibility is one of commitment to all that enriches human values, strengthens ties between peoples, and protects the message of peace. These responsibilities do not tolerate maneuvering, procrastination, and deceiving people.

For the sake of reminding believers, I will read to you passages from the Iraqi president's speech to Arab lawyers in November 1988, that is, only two years ago, and I leave it to you to judge the position.

The Iraqi president said, word for word: The Arab must not occupy another Arab country. If an Arab regime contemplates occupying, for example, Amman, will Iraq stand by idly and tell it: Thank you for occupying another Arab country? All of you, not only the people of Amman, will reject this. He also said: Observe our conduct. If this does take place, God forbid, between any two Arab countries, then we will take the same stand. We will even call on the Arabs—if Iraq deviates, God forbid, from these principles—to move the armies against Iraq if it deviates, goes to an Arab country, and uses its force which it admires against another Arab. It would be legitimate, principled, and ethical, the Iraqi president said, for the Arabs to move their armies against Iraq and

stop it. We live together on the basis of trust. But if you march with me with your hand on your gun, it would be like accompanying the Chicago gangs. [applause]

He also said: If Russia says that so and so is not communist, or that it does not like his policy and it must be changed, or opens up this country and change the ruling system by force, would this be permissible? That's what he said. The principles that govern our rule must be applied to all cases.

He said too: Iraq must not retreat into its shell. We expect it to interact on Arab issues. But Iraq has to interact in a way that will not appear to the Arabs as if it wants, with this strength, to interfere in other Arabs' affairs. This is outside of our principles and a harmful condition. We are convinced of the principles of noninterference in the internal affairs [of other Arab countries]. The Iraqi president concluded his speech by saying: I am responsible, above all morally, for every word I say before you.

Brother citizens, in this and other speeches he had made, we see that he is reiterating his firm commitment to principles and ethics. But now he is acting completely contrary to them. He interfered in the internal affairs [of another country], occupied an Arab country, and even wants to erase its name from the contemporary world map and eliminate its entity, heritage, and people from existence.

The matter has not only been confined to aggression and annexation. The military occupation has taken barbaric actions including acts of looting, plundering, and sabotage as well as assaults on people's honor and lives. This occupation has imposed the law of the jungle. It is demolishing houses, stores, and hospitals. We even have heard from the returnees who escaped from this destructive madness how they are confiscating the equipment of maternity wards in hospitals and how they are throwing newborn infants on the ground. We also learned how the lives of innocent people have become like toys for devils who show no mercy to a mother carrying her fetus or baby, or to an elderly person who cannot walk, or to a patient who is bleeding in the operating room.

Is this the ethical responsibility about which [Saddam Husayn] is talking? Is this the Islam whose duties, principles, and ethics are being quoted by Saddam? Is this the way to deepen the feelings of solidarity and cohesion among the Arab nation's people? I am confident that the Iraqi president had the opportunity to listen or watch on television how thousands of the poor from various nationalities have been exposed to eviction, acts of looting, aggression, and assault on their honor, and how these poor are trying to escape from this hell.

Where is Islam, and where are the ethics of Islam in such oppressive practices against hundreds of thousands of poor people? As I said before, those who went to Kuwait or other countries in search of jobs are not the wealthy people. They are instead the poor. They went there for a

living. You say that you support the poor and that you seek to distribute wealth among them. But what you have really done is torture the poor, displace the poor, and persecute them.

Those poor people went to Kuwait for a living, and the Kuwaiti people provided them with job opportunities to enable them to build their lives and bring up their children. What about the Kuwaiti people who are now refugees in this and that country? The Kuwaiti people have lost their lands, houses, and work. The treacherous invasion has completely eliminated their existence and presence as well as their heritage and assets. Had Kuwait been militarily stronger and had it invaded Iraq and tortured the Iraqis, as has been done to the Kuwaitis, what would have been the Iraqi ruler's stand?

Brothers, the strong principled commitment declared by the Iraqi president two years ago is not the only commitment. On 8 February 1980, a year after his assumption of power—that is, more than 10 years ago—he declared what he called the pan-Arab declaration of the Iraqi president in 1980. The second provision of this declaration, while presenting the principles which must be followed by the Arab countries, states the following, verbatim: Prohibiting the use of the armed forces by any other Arab country and resolving any disputes that might erupt among the Arab countries by peaceful means and under the canopy of the principles of the joint pan-Arab action and the supreme Arab interest. This is the declaration.

How can anyone accept or justify Iraq's violation of its every stated commitment on policy and dealings with others? How can it be possible for any bond, so established among Arab countries and peoples if one of us suddenly flouts the principles and charters to which he has committed himself and destroys in seconds all the sincere Arab efforts that were made for more than eight years to unite ranks and establish an effective degree of inter-Arab solidarity with which to confront future fateful issues—chiefly, the Palestinian people's cause.

We had been approaching a new Arab era in which forces would unite and intentions would be sincere in taking steps toward peace by attaining the Palestinian people's rights through direct negotiations that would have their positive effects on the international community. This community is pursuing a new system founded on the principle of sparing the world the calamities of war.

The sudden Iraqi invasion set us back many years. Regrettably, there were parties who did not realize the gravity of this matter, did not look ahead, and imagined this was an opportunity to exercise political one-upmanship to deceive public sentiment and rally popular Arab sentiment. They totally ignored the supreme Arab interest and called for a devastating conflagration. They will be its first victims. This was the most serious abandonment of the issues of destiny. They tried, in an obvious falsification, to turn the situation from an Arab denunciation of an Arab invasion of an Arab country

into a denunciation of the presence of foreign forces on Arab territory. The facts of the situation need no clarification. These foreign forces—I do not say this in defense of them—did not come by their own initiative or by the initiative of the countries which sent them. These forces would never have appeared on the Arab map had this tyrannical aggression on Kuwait's territory not occurred and had the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf countries not been threatened by a new aggression. This is true regardless of all the talk that no aggression has taken place.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia had no other option. It found itself compelled to invite foreigners to defend its territory. What is regrettable is that an Arab was the source of threat and was mobilizing his forces for aggression.

The question then is, Who brought in these foreign forces? Was it not the Arab who gave himself the right to occupy another Arab country? Was it required or imagined that every Arab country that did not possess a sufficiently deterrent military power should surrender to this Arab invader merely because he was Arab? If such a country requests assistance to defend its existence and sovereignty, should it be blamed and held responsible for the presence of foreign forces?

If the Iraqi rulers had listened to the Arab and international resolutions and withdrawn from the occupied territories as they had announced on the first day of the invasion, would there have been any reason for foreign forces to be present?

We are talking of an Arab solution and an international solution. There is only one solution—call it Arab, international, French, English, German, or Jewish. It is withdrawal and the restoration of the legitimate government. The issue requires no interpretation. They refuse to withdraw or to restore the legitimate government. What Arab or international solution then? There is only one solution. There is no other.

Is not the Iraqi ruler's insistence to this day on not withdrawing evidence of his insistence on the presence of foreign forces in the region? But some people want to falsify the facts for one reason or another about which I do not want to speak. They want to push matters to a deadly war, not realizing that political one-upmanship in such a grave situation is playing with fire. The consequences of fire here would be terrifying and terrible for everyone.

The Iraqi president is repeatedly saying that he will fight until victory, but he has chosen the wrong expression because war means ruin, destruction, bloodshed, victims, and destitution. Real victory is the triumph of principles. Victory is the triumph of respect for peoples' sovereignty over their territories. Victory is the triumph of international law—to which all peoples adhere—and not the law of the jungle, theft, looting, and the dispersal of millions. Victory is above anything else the triumph over one's greed and fleeting ambitions and desisting

from wrongdoings which serve no one's interests but only herald the gravest consequences for all parties.

Brothers, let us not use the slogans of religion to cover up deviation and aggression and to squander the rights of others at the expense of victims and blood. Islam is solidarity. It is cohesiveness and mercy. It is the protection of right and succor for the weak. Islam is justice, light, and peace.

I do not believe that those shouting against our confrontation of the Iraqi invasion and against the presence of foreign forces do not know Egypt's clear stand throughout the long years on these two issues. They know this and understand it well, but are ignoring it and persisting in their error.

We have struggled for long to spare the region the woes of foreign presence. We have shouldered the major burden of resisting having Arab countries pushed into foreign military alliances, foremost of which were the Baghdad Pact and CENTO. We have even stood against internationalizing the problem between Iraq and Iran. The day will come when the Iraqi regime will realize Egypt's efforts with the influential world powers to urge them not to become involved in the conflict and to let the Arab nation tackle it on the basis of its desire to protect its rights and interests and without the complications that a foreign intervention in this or that way would create.

There is something strange that the Iraqi media talks about quite often. It is fabricating. As to abuse, forget this abuse of treachery and agency. They use expressions we do not like to hear; nor do such expressions have any value. Such abuse is the weapon of the weak who cannot undertake a political dialogue. I will tell you one incident and its facts. I will tell one incident alone. I know 15 incidents, but I will speak about only one [applause]. We want to stay away from vituperation, but when the matter touches on Egypt's security I am forced to speak. I do not want to argue and will not say a single repugnant word. Not one at all.

An Iraqi paper said that working on instructions from U.S. intelligence in Egypt and with the help of specialized Israeli organs, the Egyptian security service had drawn up new security plans. The Iraqi paper added that these plans aim at involving the Palestinians residing in Egypt and accusing them of working against the Egyptian Government.

The paper also said that Israeli intelligence decided through its agents planted in Egypt to adopt several methods to carry out such acts. It looks as if we have no intelligence service and that we are just waiting for the U.S. and Israeli intelligence services. Our intelligence is probably the most efficient. [applause]

This is just the introduction. The paper then said that Mubarak regime authorities have arrested a number of Arab nationals. No, they are not Arabs. They are not Arabs. They bear one nationality. They might be Arabs,

but they are not true Arabs. The paper also said that the Egyptian authorities prepared their media to fabricate charges and incite the situation against the Arabs, and the Palestinians in particular.

Egypt's security is our top priority. I will confront, with the utmost severity, anyone, regardless of his nationality, who tries to harm Egypt's stability and security, regardless of the circumstances. [applause]

We say we are Arabs. But what about our security? What about amity and noble values and principles that you are talking about? Also, what about Islam, which you have involved in almost everything? Iraq has been sending forces—we have arrested [some of] them and we will arrest the rest [applause]—to provoke a state of instability here, sabotage some interests, hurl some grenades, and use weapons to attack buses and similar targets. They are doing this to create a state of instability in Egypt. It is the act of bankrupt people. They must know that we are clear on this. I exhort our Palestinian brothers who reside in Egypt—they are brothers—to remain in Egypt and not listen to Iraq's incitement, because if they do so, they will harm themselves. I will be firm in this regard. [applause]

They keep talking about the Mosad and U.S. intelligence. They once told an Arab president: Do not cooperate with Egypt in anything involving weapons, because all the [Egyptian] Armed Forces are deeply infiltrated by Israeli intelligence. Israel has complete information about the Iraqi missiles; it has all the information on these so-called [al-mar'amah] missiles. Of course, when they [the Iraqis] say they will strike, it is Israel that wins 100 percent. I am saying it now and the Israelis can hear me. They immediately get money, etc., and they benefit. They are smart. They get equipment for free to strengthen themselves while they [the Iraqis] keep saying they will strike, although they will not be able to strike or do anything. They [the Israelis] know the capabilities and range of the missiles there, in detail. They are monitoring every single piece of equipment that enters from abroad. They have infiltrated deeply.

I will tell you a few things. Before the Iraq-Iran war ended, the Jews in the world... [Mubarak changes thought] There was a rumor, and I suppose everyone heard it, that if the Iraq-Iran war ended, with such an army Iraq would turn to Israel and give it trouble. An Iraqi envoy was with me; I am compelled to say this because they are talking so much that I can no longer remain silent [cheers and applause]. So I sent word to them, and I was acting in good faith and with the intent to help. I harbor no evil for anyone; I just want to help as much as I can. I have significant international connections thanks to Egypt's prestige and weight. So I told them: Tell the president to issue any statement about peace, because Israel is saying he [Iraqi president] intends to wage war. Any statement about peace at any time, but let me know in advance, and leave it to me to work on this statement with the Israelis, since there is concern about this matter. So they went.

Do you know what they did? Two or three months later their foreign under secretary, who was an ambassador to the United States, sent for an American doctor from Harvard University. I do not want to mention him by name. They went to her and handed her a message to take to an Israeli official, whom, again, I do not want to name. The envoy arrived in Jordan, crossed the bridge, and reached Israel. What is important is that we learned about it the same day because Israel informed us on the same day.

The message was as follows:

1. There are no hostile Iraqi intentions against Israel. Did we not tell you we would do it and try to help you, as Arabs, in our own way? I got three promises from Israel, and they honored them all.

2. Iraq will not stand in the way of any peace agreement reached by the parties in the Middle East region.

3. Iraq is upset by the statements made in Israel supporting the continuation of the Gulf war. Would not an Arab have done a better job? The Arab would have done the job, since it is our cause, and I would have helped you better than anyone else, as an Arab country. So why is this? Anyway.

4. Iraq's concern over reports being circulating about new arms deals between Israel and Iran. So I learned of it the next day [as heard] the message got through. So when an Iraqi official came to me I could not let it pass. I told him: Well done! It is very good that you sent this woman to Israel to tell them so and so, so that Israel would feel assured. [applause]

That was in 1987. In March 1989 this same doctor visited Iraq and met with the deputy foreign minister, information minister, trade minister, and oil minister. Then she went to the Israelis and told them that Iraq still adopts a hard-line position in its campaigns against Israel and the Zionism. This is what they told her. However, this is just the outer picture, but the fact is that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is not a priority on Iraq's agenda. Rather, domestic affairs and the Iranian and Syrian threats have priority. Therefore, the intifadah incidents are not often mentioned. They told her this, and she responded.

Another point: The fear is from Iran, and not from Israel, because of the possibility of infiltrating the region ideologically, unlike Israel. Unless there is an Israeli attack, they will not carry out any aggressive act against Israel. This means that if Israel does not act, they [Iraq] will not undertake any aggressive act. Iraq is absolutely not concerned with attacking Israel. This is an appeasement to Israel. Could not an Arab have done the same job? Or would it have been unwelcome coming from an Arab?

Another thing. Iraq wanted to build a pipeline terminating at al-Aqabah. Israel and Iraq exchanged indirect contacts about the pipeline so that Israel would not attack it. The Israeli prime minister informed me then,

and I told him there is no need to do this and and told him to assure them there will be no attack. Although no one asked me to do it, I did it.

Contacting Israel and the Mosad. There is a factory, called (Hagura), in Ramat Gan in Israel. It used to supply Iraqi orders for knapsacks—you know them—and related kits. Hence, there is no need for roundabout talk regarding Mosad and penetration and what have you. We know the truth; many of us know. Still, I say that we want to be discreet. There are more scandalous things I do not want to reveal. However, if this matter goes too far, I am willing to bring things to light. I am trying to maintain some sort of link with Iraq because it is an Arab country.

Brothers and sisters. This is Egypt, as it was yesterday and as it is now and will be in the future. Egypt is sincerely committed to principles and morality. Egypt has offered 100,000 martyrs of its good sons in wars waged to liberate the land and defend Palestinian rights. Egypt continues to be the country that makes the utmost efforts for the good of the Palestinian cause. For this reason I warn our Palestinian brothers: Do not be dragged into terrorist operations. This will turn public opinion in this country against you. No one will help you except Egypt, or will help you as much as Egypt. I mean, be reasonable. Egypt ate black bread and suffered shortages because of the billions it spent to fulfill its national and pan-Arab commitments. Egypt calls for social justice and political liberty as the foundation of its internal structure. I mention social justice because there are people who are now raising the issue of social justice and redistribution of wealth as a justification for aggression. True, there are discrepancies in the revenues of countries, just as there are discrepancies in the incomes of individuals. These discrepancies, however, must be placed in their proper framework. The legitimate and effective method of dealing with these discrepancies is not by inciting grudges between the haves and have-nots, the rich and poor. Armed force cannot be used to threaten peoples' security and resources. The use of force does not establish a right or a legitimate status. On the contrary, it provokes sedition among people and seeks to impose a situation lacking legitimacy and justice. We are able, with quiet dialogue, good words, and with the premise of inter-Arab and inter-Islamic solidarity, to attain a formula that guarantees an optimal use of the resources of the oil-producing countries, including Iraq. It cannot be done by coercion or by depriving the haves of their possessions. Our Prophet is an excellent example of this. He said: It is forbidden for a Muslim to shed a Muslim's blood or violate his possessions and honor. He took care to emphasize this moral during his last hajj when he said: Your blood and possessions are forbidden to you, as forbidden as the sanctity of this country. Consequently, none of us has the right to rectify what he sees as an imbalance in the Arab utilization of oil and other wealth by any method he likes. It is imperative to abide by legitimate methods, amicable dialogue, and honest intentions.

Brother citizens, what is the situation like now? The situation very clearly is the following: All countries on all the continents are on one side and, regrettably, Iraq is alone on the other. All the attempts to bring peace by effecting a withdrawal and restoring the legitimate government have been dashed by Iraq's insistence on defying the international will. This means that coming events will carry with them increasing evils.

Still, while the Egyptian people are commemorating the immortal October war, I address a new appeal to President Saddam Husayn—in the name of the souls of the October martyrs who defied death so as to offer Egypt life—to think realistically and practically—far from unruly obstinacy and deceptive and exaggerated self-confidence—of the possible catastrophe and horrors to which his illogical hard-line stand might lead.

I base this appeal on the deep conviction that the courage of leadership lies not in pushing people to the abyss of destruction and death; real courage lies in retracting a wrong decision which only causes blood and innocent victims. Real courage lies in facing the truth, the simple undisputed truth that it is impossible that the decision of a single person is the correct one while the decision of all the leaders of the international community is wrong.

I pray to God Almighty to inspire us all and to direct us with deep belief and sincere feelings toward all that is right, good, and just. Our road to October was one of peace and construction. From one end to the other our Arab territory will not develop, its aims will not be united, its strength will not be achieved, and the Arab will not obtain his legitimate right to a dignified and prosperous life except under the canopy of peace. We are not and will not be propagators of war and bloodshed. The forces that miscalculated forced us to wage the battle. We called for peace while we were at the peak of victory.

We must all look toward a new tomorrow that will honor man. The time has come for the Arab in every Arab land to contribute his full efforts so that this great nation, which possesses all the requisites for success and development, can restore its position and advance toward its natural status.

I say with deep regret that we ourselves are laying the obstacles that are impeding our progress. It would be better if we look at our responsibility to the coming generations. We do not want a harsh judgment from these generations, namely that we have lost opportunities, shed Arab blood, and moved in vicious circles of dispersal, divisions, and one-upmanship.

Our image in the world has become ridiculous. They call for the liberation of the occupied territory and recognition of the Palestinian people's rights while they fight, occupy one another's lands, and shed Arab blood with Arab hands and by Arab decision. I want to tell certain brothers who do not realize the seriousness and gravity of the situation that the ugly circumstances facing us do not tolerate the maneuvers of twisted statements, mixing right with wrong, or the race to misleading statements

that ignore the horrible facts. The situation today requires a united stand and decision. We want only an Arab decision that we can impose on ourselves by our own free will in full assessment of the clear realities of the situation with the ability to sacrifice personal views and abandon ambitions that will not materialize.

You, heroes of our Armed Forces, I extend to you the people's salute and the appreciation of every man and woman in this great country for the historic role you played in October 1973. You liberated the land and hoisted the banners of peace. You are also playing a historic role today in safeguarding your Arab nation's security, defending principles and creed, and confronting aggression against right and peace. [applause]

We will not be worthy of our lives unless we are worthy of shouldering the national and pan-Arab responsibility. Right is the most worthy ideal to pursue, duty is nobler than greed, and wisdom lies in establishing what is right. God will reward the faithful and the believers. God is well acquainted with what you do. We ask God Almighty to grant us the blessing of wisdom and righteousness. God bestows the great rewards. May God grant us success and may God's peace and blessings be upon you. [applause]

Ghali Delivers Government's Address to UN

*NC0410191990 Cairo MENA in English 1830 GMT
4 Oct 90*

[Text] United Nations, Oct 4 (MENA)—Dr. Butrus Ghali, Egypt's minister of state for foreign affairs, condemned anew the continued Iraqi occupation of Kuwait. He classified this occupation as an attempt on the part of Iraq to wipe out man's diligent efforts over half a century for the sake of maintaining the principles of international principles.

Dr. Ghali, further addressing Egypt's word to the 45th session of the United Nations General Assembly today, said that Egypt brags of having contributed to drafting the UN Charter.

It was its membership of the world organization since its inception that made her territory the cradle for the league of Arab nations, he said.

Egypt cannot but announce on the UN forum, which embodies the pulse of the world community, its condemnation once again of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, Dr. Ghali said. He termed the series of Security Council resolutions on this issue as constituting a solid ground for the peaceful option which is cherished by the president, government and people of Egypt.

Dr. Ghali underlined the significance of the 45th session of the UN General Assembly coming in such a historical stage being the first session in the post-cold war era. This, he said, will surely support the United Nations and its peace overtures.

On the situation in the occupied Arab territories, Ghali expounded the inseparableness of issues resulting from the principle of the inadmissibility of seizing land by force.

He further tackled African issue, world economic situation, Third World debts, the role of the Non-Alignment Movement and cooperation between South and South.

He concluded with voicing Egypt's hope that world community would, by the advent of next year, be able to realize the aspirations of Third World countries, restore the inalienable rights to their owners and succeed in narrowing the gap between the rich North and poor South.

Meets Syrian Foreign Minister

NC0510064090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2228 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] United Nations, 4 Oct (MENA)—Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has met with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar. They discussed the latest developments in the Gulf crisis and Egyptian-Syrian relations. After the talks at the United Nations this afternoon, Dr. Ghali stated that the meeting falls within the framework of the coordination between Egyptian and Syrian diplomacy and the joint action to examine the dimensions of the Gulf crisis. He stressed that the views of Egypt and Syria are identical. He said: Both countries adopt the same stand on this crisis: They stress the need for implementing the Security Council resolutions providing for the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait, the restoration of the legitimate government in Kuwait, and the rejection of any attempt to obstruct the implementation of the UN resolutions. Dr. Ghali is scheduled to meet with the United Nations secretary-general tomorrow, Friday.

U.S. Senate Panel Forgives Military Debts

NC0310194590 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] The U.S. Senate Foreign Aid Appropriations Subcommittee today approved exempting Egypt from repaying its military debts to the United States, estimated at \$7 billion.

It should be recalled that President George Bush had earlier submitted a proposal to this effect. Within the framework of adopting the U.S. foreign aid program estimated at \$15 billion for next year, the subcommittee also approved a recommendation to cancel any aid to countries that have trade dealings with Iraq.

Butrus Ghali Comments

NC0310222090 Cairo MENA in English 2129 GMT
3 Oct 90

[Text] New York, Oct. 3 (MENA)—Dr. Butrus Ghali, Egypt's minister of state for foreign affairs, who is heading its delegation to the United Nations' current session, denied today that the United States would be

rewarding Egypt for what it had offered for solving the Gulf crisis through exempting it from its military debt.

"This is not true because Egypt has been, now for three years since the African Addis Ababa conference of December 1987, calling for reducing the African countries' debts. Egypt is an African country", said Dr. Ghali in an interview with the correspondent of the Voice of America.

"The committee, formed for this purpose, contacted all the international sources, including the American ones, to call for reducing some debts and waiving others," he said.

Asked whether Egypt's exemption from its debts would actually ease Egyptian burdens, Dr. Ghali said, "Undoubtedly, Egypt's exemption from the military debt would contribute to economic development in Egypt. The Egyptian foreign debts and the African foreign debts are an obstacle to economic development in these countries."

On his opinion on President Bush's United Nations' speech, Dr. Ghali said: This speech underscores U.S. adherence to Security Council resolutions, which call upon Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait. It also underlines U.S. faith in the new role of the United Nations."

Sudan's Karrar Comments on Visit, Relations

NC0310155690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT
3 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo, 3 Oct (MENA)—Colonel Salah Karrar, Sudanese Revolution Command Council member who is currently visiting Cairo, has stated that Egypt's security is closely linked to Sudan's. He said that there is nothing to mar bilateral relations. He asserted that the Sudanese Government and people are eager to strengthen Egyptian-Sudanese relations toward integration out of faith in the importance of these ties. In an exclusive statement to MENA, Karrar said that certain elements who call themselves opposition have tried to harm Egyptian-Sudanese relations and falsely portray the situation in Sudan as hostile to Egypt, fabricating stories from their sick imagination.

Karrar welcomed Egypt's role as a partner in solving the southern Sudan problem through peace efforts because this problem concerns Egypt's security regarding the Nile waters, the region's stability, and development projects. He said: We welcome every Egyptian overture and move to find a solution to the problem of southern Sudan.

Col. Karrar described his visit to Cairo and his talks with Egyptian officials as successful and removed many of the clouds that hang over bilateral ties. He said he explained his country's views on all issues to Egyptian officials and that the Egyptian side showed understanding of Sudan's stand. He said that the forthcoming stage will witness political activity and an exchange of visits by officials of both countries.

Col. Karrar said that regarding the Gulf crisis, Sudan's stand is clear. It is based on rejecting the Iraqi invasion

of Kuwait, respects the legitimate government in Kuwait and, at the same time, believes that the presence of foreign forces in the region harms Arab interests. He noted that when Sudan says this, it voices its views on an issue that is very sensitive and serious, but it does not impose it on others. Regarding the domestic situation in Sudan, he said that the National Salvation government has succeeded just in over one year in addressing the economic problem and emphasizing democratic dialogue in all issues as a course for saving Sudan.

Confers With 'Abd-al-Majid

NC0410153290 *Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT*
4 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo, 4 Oct (MENA)—Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here today with Colonel Salah Karrar, Sudanese Revolution Command Council member, and his accompanying delegation.

In statement after the meeting, Karrar said that Egyptian-Sudanese relations are historic and eternal, adding that his meeting with the foreign minister is part of the continuing coordination and consultations between the two countries.

Bahraini Minister Meets Mubarak, Comments

NC0310142790 *Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic*
1230 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Excerpts] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Bahraini Information Minister Tariq al-Mu'ayyad at the presidential office this afternoon. Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif attended the meeting.

The Bahraini minister said after the meeting that he conveyed to President Husni Mubarak the greetings of his brother His Highness Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah and the Bahraini Government and people's appreciation of Egypt's Arab stands and the stands of President Mubarak personally, which prove to all Arabs that Egypt will always remain the main axis of Arab action and the staging point for every move in the service of the Arab cause in all fields. [passage omitted]

He said the president gave us directives to continue our cooperation, particularly in the radio and television spheres, and to utilize the programs and plans of Egyptian radio and of the direct television broadcast network via Arabsat's wide-band transponder so that the greatest possible number of Arabs can be reached, especially in the Gulf region, where such a station can be received when it soon begins transmission.

He noted that Bahrain takes pride in the Egyptian media's stand which expresses the Egyptian people's nobleness, of which the Bahraini amir is proud.

Leaves Cairo After Two-Day Visit

NC0310161090 *Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic*
1500 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Bahraini Information Minister Tariq al-Mu'ayyad left Cairo this afternoon at the end of a two-day visit to Egypt, during which he was received by President Husni Mubarak. He also held talks with Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif on promoting ties between the two countries in various media fields. [passage omitted]

Mubarak Receives Message From Kohl on Unity

NC0410172790 *Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic*
1500 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] German Chancellor Helmut Kohl today sent a message to President Husni Mubarak dealing with unified Germany—its policy, the emphasis on its interests in promoting cooperation with Egypt, and its interest in the situation in the Gulf and the Middle East region. The German charge d'affaires in Cairo handed the message to Dr. Usamah al-Baz, first foreign under secretary and director of the president's office for political affairs.

Dr. al-Baz said he emphasized to the German official that Egypt welcomes Germany's unity and that it looks forward to establishing close relations with it in all fields.

Netherlands Armed Forces Chief of Staff Arrives

NC0310203890 *Cairo MENA in English 2010 GMT*
3 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo, Oct 3 (MENA)—The Netherlands's chief-of-staff of the armed forces arrived here tonight on a five-day visit during which he will be received by chief-of-staff of the armed forces Lieutenant General Safiy al-Din Abu-Shinaf.

The talks of the two sides, scheduled tomorrow morning will deal with means to promote military cooperation between the two countries and the latest Gulf developments.

Bilateral Military Talks Held With Pakistan

NC0310160190 *Cairo MENA in Arabic 1048 GMT*
3 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo, 3 Oct (MENA)—General Yusuf Sabri Abu-Talib, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and minister of defense and war production, received at his office this morning Admiral Iftikhar Ahmad Sirohey, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff of the Pakistani Armed Forces, and his accompanying delegation, who are currently visiting Egypt. Discussion during the meeting dealt with promoting bilateral military cooperation in the fields of armament, training, and the exchange of expertise. Navy Commander Rear Admiral Muhammad Sharif al-Sadiq; Major General Ahmad Wahdan, assistant chief of staff; and Major General Hitler Tantawi, Defense Ministry secretary general, attended the meeting.

The military talks between Egypt and Pakistan opened earlier this morning at the Defense Ministry in Nasr City. Lieutenant General Safiy al-Din Abu-Shinab, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, led the Egyptian side, and Admiral Sirohey led the Pakistani side.

In a statement following the talks, the Pakistani official praised the strong ties between the two countries and stressed his country's desire to promote and develop bilateral relations so as to serve the region's interests and strengthen ties between the Islamic states to reach the standard of those among the major states.

Senior commanders of the Armed Forces and members of the delegation accompanying the Pakistani official on his visit to Egypt attended the talks.

Results of Yemeni Minister's Visit Viewed

PM0410141690 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 1 Oct 90 p 1

[Exclusive unattributed report: "Secrets of Yemeni Envoy's Visit to Cairo; Three Yemeni Requests and Categorical Egyptian Replies"]

[Text] Cairo, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureau—Informed diplomatic sources have revealed to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT the secrets about the visit to Cairo the day before yesterday by Rashid Muhammad Thabit, Yemeni minister of state for council of representatives affairs; what proposals he made to Egyptian officials; and the categorical replies he received to the ideas that he put forward.

The sources said that the Yemeni minister's visit had three objectives. The first was to have Egypt mediate with Saudi Arabia in connection with recent decisions on the withdrawal of the special privileges that the Yemenis enjoyed in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The sources added that Rashid Thabit gave President Husni Mubarak, with whom he met the day before yesterday, information about the number of Yemenis working in Saudi Arabia and the size of their remittances, pointing out that Yemen's state budget depended almost entirely on these remittances.

Summing up the second objective, the sources said that the Yemeni minister said, on [President] 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's behalf, that "Yemen would not launch any aggression from its territory against any Arab state." Rashid Thabit denied "the presence of Iraqi arms in Yemeni territory, whether fighter planes or missile launchers."

Third, the Yemeni minister reaffirmed his country's denial of harassment of and attacks on Egyptians working in Yemen because of Egypt's position on the Gulf developments.

However, the sources said that Egyptian officials pointed out during their meetings with the Yemeni minister that the facts conflict with what the minister told them. One

such fact was that Egyptians working in Yemen were not only assaulted, but some of them actually killed. Post mortems carried out on Egyptian corpses brought to Cairo from Sanaa showed that some of those killed had been savagely assaulted.

Regarding the Iraqi weapons mentioned in some reports, the sources said that despite Yemen's denial, there is some evidence to the contrary that confirms the presence of such weapons. For example, Egyptians returning from Yemen have confirmed that a close guard was suddenly introduced at certain locations near military bases, especially air bases, and that Egyptians employed there were not allowed in.

The sources also cited information confirming that Iraqi experts visited Yemen in May and June to modify its Scud-B missiles, for which six launchers are already in place. According to the same information, Iraq gave Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih \$50 million, supposedly to cover Yemen's balance of payments deficit, though in fact the money was to modify the Scud missiles in Yemen to carry chemical warheads.

The sources also said that Cairo told the Yemeni minister that it had certain specific demands, the most important of which are:

1. Yemen's denial of the presence of Iraq Scud-B missiles or other weapons is not enough. Such a denial must be made public with a commitment from Yemen to accept all the consequences if emerges that the facts conflict with what it has stated.
2. Attacks on Egyptians working in Yemen must stop immediately, otherwise Cairo will be compelled to withdraw some of its senior experts and university professors, to begin with, followed by the recall of all its teachers, on whom Yemen is 60-70 percent dependent.
3. The Yemeni president must convey his assurances to the Gulf states directly and take positive steps in that connection instead of just making statements which prove nothing.

In view of the above, the sources believe that the Yemeni minister's visit to Cairo has changed nothing, or at least done nothing to end the freeze in Egyptian-Yemeni relations, because the Egyptian position is now linked to the entire Gulf crisis.

Commander Says Troop Dispatch 'Completed'

NC0310111790 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT
3 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Hafar al-Batin, Saudi Arabia, 3 Oct (MENA)—[passage omitted] Major General Muhammad 'Ali Bilal, commander of the Egyptian troops in Saudi Arabia, has declared that his troops came to Saudi Arabia in implementation of the Arab summit resolutions, to bolster the defense capabilities of the Kingdom and protect the Islamic holy places.

He pointed out that the dispatch of the Egyptian troops to Saudi Arabia was completed today, on 3 October, and that the dispatch of new and additional troops depends on the developments in the general situation and on circumstances. He stressed that Egypt, as well as the remaining Arab troops, are eager to resolve the problem peacefully to avoid tremendous losses for the Arab people and economy. [passage omitted]

Iraqis, Palestinians Detained; Weapons Seized

NC0310194390 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] According to security sources in Cairo today, several Iraqis and Palestinians who were sent to Egypt to carry out acts of sabotage have been arrested. The Egyptian interior minister said that members of the Fatah Revolutionary Council were among those arrested. He added that quantities of weapons and explosives were also seized.

False Bomb Threat Delays Saudi Plane's Departure

NC0510063990 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0610 GMT
5 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo, 5 Oct (MENA)—A Saudi airliner carrying 411 passengers was delayed from taking off for four hours last night because of a false alarm about a bomb on board. The airliner was about to take off at 2000 yesterday when the Saudi Airlines office received an anonymous telephone call claiming that a bomb on board the plane would explode within minutes. Airport security officials immediately took police dogs to the plane as fire engines stood by. The passengers disembarked and their luggage was taken off. Security men then carried out a thorough search of the plane but nothing was found. The plane took off at midnight.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Message to UN on Israel's 'Removal'

LD0410083590 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab
Homeland
in Arabic 2315 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution addressed the following message to the United Nations General Assembly:

The world witnesses now the collapse of the post-World War II arrangements, which included dividing Germany and Europe; military pacts; and dividing the world into two camps, an Eastern and a Western one. These arrangements were originally created to spite Nazism and take revenge on it because it dragged the world into that appalling war.

The removal of these arrangements began with the destruction of the Berlin Wall and the restoration of Germany to its natural unity. Then this was followed by

the end of traditional conflict between East and West and the collapse of the Warsaw Pact, whose collapse will lead to the collapse of NATO.

The world, intentionally or unintentionally, ignored the most dangerous mine threatening world peace, which is also one of the post-World War II arrangements. It is the Jewish state in Palestine.

The establishment of the Jewish state in Palestine was out of revenge against Nazism, which tortured the Jews in Europe, and a reaction to it. However, Nazism is finished. Then why should another innocent people who have nothing whatsoever to do with Nazism, which is the Palestinian people, bear the responsibility for it?

The establishment of a state on a religious basis does not have any acceptable justification, and accepting it means accepting the division of the world on a religious basis. This would mean that the believers in every religion should have the right to establish a state on any spot they choose on earth. This would put the world in a vortex of conflict which could never end.

If the world sympathizes with the Jews against those who persecuted them, then Europe is the one responsible for their persecution. It is the one who should pay for that by forming a state for the Jews on some European territories.

If we accept that the Jews should have a state, then we have repeatedly suggested that if a Jewish state should exist, it would be better established in the regions we suggested, which were Alsace and Lorraine, the area of traditional conflict between Germany and France; or the Baltic republics, where the Jews historically lived; or on the banks of the Volga, where at a certain time there was a Jewish state; or in Alaska, the Russian land bought by the United States.

The Palestinian problem is one of the most dangerous problems threatening world peace. It is the cause of the permanent and continuous conflict between East and West; Islam and Christianity and north and south. It is the direct cause of the so-called terrorism; the taking of hostages and the various acts of violence.

The world was able to deal with crises which threatened peace in the north. Why then leave it mined in the south because of the existence of the Jewish state in Palestine?

Therefore, the Jewish state in Palestine should end if the world is serious about establishing peace on earth. This requires all the countries of the world to withdraw their recognition of that state and make the state of Palestine a democracy for all its citizens regardless of their religions.

We are advising the whole world that this state should be removed, as the similar post-world War II arrangements were removed, if we really want peace. Otherwise the current and coming generations will pay an exorbitant price and the acts of violence, terrorism, hatred, and malice will increase and the world will be threatened with a World War III because of this dangerous mine implanted in Palestine.

We advise the removal of the Jewish state from Palestine, as the Berlin Wall was removed, because both of them were equally among the post-World War II arrangements. The Arab nation will fully cooperate with the international community to ensure that the Jews will not be persecuted wherever they might be, and will accept the return of the Arab Jews to their original countries. Europe, America, and the rest of the world should also promise not to persecute their Jewish citizens and should also accept their return to them as citizens.

This advice is the only way out for the Jews on the one hand, and for world peace on the other hand.

God is my witness, I have told them.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Syrian Vice President

LD0410161590 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1450 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Tripoli, 4 Oct (JANA)—The brother leader of the revolution today received brother 'Abd-al-Hakim Khaddam, vice president of the fraternal Syrian Arab Republic, who is a personal envoy of President Hafiz al-Asad.

Student Conference Denies INA Report

LD0410122190 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1035 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Tripoli, 4 Oct (JANA)—The General Conference of the Students of the Great Jamahiriya has declared that the report carried by INA yesterday on a joint communique released between the General Union [as received] of the Students of the Great Jamahiriya and the National Union of Iraqi Students and Youths is devoid of any truth. In a communique released in Tripoli today, the conference says that the General Conference of the Students of the Great Jamahiriya, which has absolute faith in the need for the realization of Arab unity and the liberation of occupied Palestine, and which rejects any foreign presence on Arab land, by no means allows its name to be implicated in positions that do not serve the unity of the Arab nation.

Morocco

King Congratulates Weizsaecker on Unification

LD0410132890 Rabat MAP in English 1218 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Rabat, Oct. 4 (MAP)—King Hassan II of Morocco sent a congratulatory message to President of the Federal Republic of Germany Richard von Weizsaecker on the occasion of the unification of the two Germanys. In his message, King Hassan II said he was "convinced that

this historic event will enable the great people of the unified Germany to contribute ...to peace and concord in international relations".

"We can assure you, president", the sovereign went on, "that we will spare no effort in the future in further strengthening friendship and cooperation ties that are very fortunately existing between our two countries".

Sudan

More on Democratic Alliance Group's Statement

EA0210230490 (Clandestine) Voice of Sudan in Arabic
1800 GMT 28 Sep 90

[Statement released by the "legitimate leadership" of the Armed Forces—read by Salah Jalal]

[Excerpt] A group of high-ranking Sudanese Army officers have promulgated a decision to cease operating covertly and start operating overtly with the aim of restoring legitimacy and democracy in Sudan. They call on the officers and soldiers of the Armed Forces to join in the operation codenamed I Am Sudan, which aims at toppling the regime of Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, who, the group stressed, has seized power by deceitful means on behalf of the National Islamic Front [NIF]. The group said in a statement issued after a series of meetings among soldiers and after contacts were made with the leadership of the political parties within the framework of the National Democratic Alliance, which comprises all opposition forces in Sudan including parties, workers, and professional unions, that it exercises its right as the legitimate leadership to bring about the downfall of Al-Bashir's regime from power.

The statement was signed on behalf of the group by First Lieutenant General Fathi Ahmad Ali, the commander in chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces until 30 June 1989, when Al-Bashir and the NIF group seized power. Those who participated in preparing the statement are Lieutenant General 'Abd-al-Rahman Sa'id, deputy chief of staff for operations, and Brigadier al-Hadi Bushra, acting director general of the Sudan Security Bureau.

The statement, which was accompanied by a military announcement, outlined the group's main objectives, which are: full alignment with the people and to work with the patriotic forces in order to restore democratic life in Sudan; to work for an end to the war in the south, according to the charter of the National Democratic Alliance; to convene a constitutional conference for peace in an atmosphere conducive to its success; and to preserve the independence and nationalist nature of the Armed Forces, reconstructing them and strengthening them so that they engage only in discharging their essential tasks, namely, to defend the country and safeguard its independence and its democratic system. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Government Source Rebukes Palestinian Leadership

LD0410221190 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic
2013 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Statement by "responsible source" in the Kuwaiti Government on remarks by the leaderships of some Palestinian organizations; from the "State of Kuwait Television Message" program—read by announcer]

[Text] In reply to the points raised by the PLO delegates at the conference held in Jordan recently, a responsible source at the Kuwaiti Council of Ministers has made the following statement:

Every now and then, the media report to us statements made by some leaderships of the Palestinian organizations about the crime perpetrated by the treacherous Iraqi regime against the State of Kuwait. What is regrettable is that these leaderships, for one reason or another, have thrown themselves completely into the arms of the criminal Iraqi regime and have become mouthpieces for this regime. They are working hard to rescue it from its international isolation by adopting so-called initiatives to deal with the dangerous situation resulting from Iraq's occupation of Kuwait.

The latest of these so-called initiatives was the one launched by the PLO representative to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in which he tried—in the interest of the malevolent Iraqi regime—to link the withdrawal of the invading Iraqi troops from the State of Kuwait with a solution for the Palestinian issue.

In this respect, the Kuwaiti Council of Ministers would like to stress the following two points:

One: Kuwait was expecting from these organizations a moral stance which supports rightness and condemns the aggression to which the people of Kuwait have been subjected.

Two: These organizations have started losing their credibility at the Arab and Islamic levels and also at the international level because of their support—which has doubtful motives—for the Iraqi regime which has been rejected by the international community for its criminal and tyrannical practices.

The Council of Ministers reaffirms that the only way to put an end to the deterioration of the explosive situation in the Arabian Gulf resulting from the occupation of the State of Kuwait by the Iraqi aggressors is the total and immediate implementation of the resolutions adopted by the Arab emergency summit and the UN Security Council on this issue. The Council also points out that there is no longer any hope for any endeavor which is outside the framework of these resolutions and that there is still an opportunity for these [Palestinian] organizations to return to the camp of rightness and announce their condemnation and rejection of

Kuwait's occupation and of Saddam Husayn's hostile practices which have contributed to spreading a climate of division and disunion in the Arab world.

Finance Minister Says Country Can Rebuild

PM0410105090

[Editorial Report] London ITV Television Network in English at 1800 GMT on 3 October from their Channel 4 "News" broadcast, carries an interview with Kuwaiti Minister of Finance Shaykh 'Ali al-Sabah during a Liz Donnelly report on Amnesty International's accusation of Iraqi atrocities in Kuwait.

Kuwaiti resistance video shows buildings and automobiles destroyed by Iraqi forces. Iraqi missile launchers and trucks are also shown. Shaykh 'Ali al-Sabah says: "Nobody likes to see either his fellow citizens being murdered in a military action, or his country being destroyed in a military action. But if it is the last resort, if this is what it takes to liberate Kuwait, then so be it."

Donnelly reports that Kuwaiti business is now being run from London and that financial resources are not a problem. Al-Sabah says: "Well, I also hope that the Iraqis will pay us some of the...for some of the damage that they have inflicted on our country, but regardless—we do have the financial resources, we have the oil resource to rebuild our country, and we have the determination to do the hard work necessary to do that."

AL-WATAN in London Plans New Publication

NC0410071890 Cairo MENA in English 2234 GMT
3 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo, Oct. 3 (MENA)—Muhammad Musa'id al-Salih, board chairman and chief editor of the Kuwaiti "AL-WATAN" newspaper, said the paper will be reissued daily from London and will make international editions in both Cairo and Washington within two weeks.

In an arrival statement, Musa'id said the paper will focus on Kuwaiti activities inside and outside Kuwait. Musa'id arrived here tonight from London.

Saudi Arabia

Five Westerners Escape Kuwait Aboard Small Boat

NC0410144690 Paris AFP in English 0938 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Riyadh, Oct 4 (AFP)—Two Frenchmen and three Britons escaped from Iraqi-occupied Kuwait aboard a small boat Wednesday and arrived safely on the east coast of Saudi Arabia, informed sources said here Thursday.

The five men, the first to flee Kuwait by sea since the Gulf emirate was invaded by Iraqi troops August 2, were to leave Saudi Arabia shortly for Paris and London, the sources said. But they refused to identify the five or to provide details of their escape for "security reasons."

Several thousand Westerners managed to flee Kuwait to Saudi Arabia across the desert in the immediate aftermath of the invasion.

But no Westerner has been able to get out for the past several weeks, as Iraqi troops have tightened border controls.

France's Mitterrand, King Fahd Hold Talks

LD0410173790 Paris Domestic Service in French
1600 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] The Jeddah meeting between Francois Mitterrand and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia: Mr Mitterrand replied to King Fahd, who thanked him for the stance of France, which has sent 4,000 soldiers to the kingdom, saying, we are on your side and on the side of any country that is threatened.

The Saudi monarch and the French president have, furthermore, shown converging analyses of the crisis. They expressed the same determination as to the implementation of the embargo against Iraq. However, an Elysee spokesman is reported to have said that while stressing his determination to follow the logic of the embargo right through, King Fahd has shown some skepticism concerning the chances of making the Iraqi President Saddam Husayn yield.

Visits Troops, Departs

LD0410192990 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Excerpts] His Excellency French President Francois Mitterrand arrived this afternoon in the city of Yanbu' as part of his current visit to Saudi Arabia. [passage omitted]

The French president was accompanied by Hisham Nazir, minister of petroleum and mineral resources and acting planning minister.

On his arrival, President Mitterrand paid a visit to the position of the French forces in Yanbu'. [passage omitted]

French President Francois Mitterrand left Yanbu' this evening on his way home at the end of his brief visit to Saudi Arabia. [passage omitted]

British Energy Secretary Holds News Conference

LD0210212790 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] The British secretary of energy, Mr. John Wakeham, has said that the states of the world are grateful to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for its courageous stand in increasing its oil supplies to the tune of 2 million barrels a day to make up for the shortage resulting from the international boycott against the Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil supplies.

At a news conference yesterday in the Dammam [word indistinct] hotel, the British secretary said that his visit to the Kingdom is aimed first at following the situation

in the Gulf and then at affirming Britain's resolve regarding the need for Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, and the return of the legitimate government, together with discussions on the oil production and oil industry situation with officials in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as well as expanding trade and economic cooperation between the Kingdom and Britain.

At the conference, the British secretary also spoke about the current situation of the oil market, saying that the Third World states and the underdeveloped countries will be most affected by the current oil prices rise. He stressed that there is no big imbalance between supply and demand in the international oil market.

Concerning his expectations regarding oil prices after the crisis, the British secretary said: I believe that prices will come down, even though it is difficult at this moment to define crisis.

Foreign Minister Holds Meetings at UN

LD0210083590 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0630 GMT
2 Sep 90

[Text] New York, 2 Oct (SPA)—His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs, held a series of meetings in New York today with heads of governments and delegations taking part in the UN childrens' summit meetings and the 45th UN General Assembly session.

His Royal Highness met Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, the British prime minister. He met earlier with Mr. Giulio Andreotti, the Italian prime minister, and Mr. Qian Qichen, the Chinese minister of foreign affairs.

These meetings were attended by His Royal Highness Bandar Bin Sultan-Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the Saudi ambassador to Washington, and member of the Saudi delegation to the UN General Assembly meetings.

The meetings dealt with bilateral relations and bolstering the international efforts to implement the UN Security Council resolutions regarding the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait, the restoration of the Kuwaiti legitimate government under the leadership of His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait.

Paper Ridicules 'Arafat's Support for Saddam

PM2709094190 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic
22 Sep 90 p 5

['Ali Muhammad al-'Umayr article: "Palestinian Cause Dilemma!!"]

[Text] "Yasir ['Arafat] al-Khityar [old man or head of family]" had for a long time—namely, after the establishment of the movement led by him—said and emphasized that he would not allow his country's cause to enter the rings of conflict and Arab disputes.

He continued to emphasize and reiterate that after this "organization" was established. And indeed he did just

that, keeping his organization and its cause away from the Arab disputes raging throughout the Arab world.

But the minute his organization was granted a seat in the Arab League he started—step by step—to push himself and his country's cause into some Arab disputes along the lines of the principle "no one is better than anyone!"

"The combatant's" contradiction of his old principle has reached its apogee during the Arab split caused by Saddam Husayn and his occupation of Kuwait and threats against Saudi Arabia. The Arab world, indeed the world as a whole, was surprised by "al-Khityar's" support for Saddam Husayn's invasion of Kuwait, threats against the kingdom, and his various known mad actions!!

Had "al-Khityar" joined the Arab majority's position on Saddam Husayn's actions we would—to some extent at least—have excused him for his abandonment of his fundamental principle in question!!

But, as is known, he joined a very small minority, thus making people more surprised by that position of his which does not serve his country's cause at all but, instead, harms it badly and denies it the benefit of Arab capabilities in isolation from Arab disputes!!

Undoubtedly the "organization's leader" is fully aware that what Saddam Husayn has done has harmed his country's cause a great deal, as the world as a whole has now turned away from it and the Arab world is now preoccupied with its serious and grave crisis!

And as a result, Israel has received what it terms a "gift from God," as it has been allowed to do its work without any headache, stepping up its repression against the intifadah and the Palestinian people without encountering even the usual protest, without being exposed by the Arab media, which are preoccupied with their role in the Gulf crisis, or, to be correct, the Saddam Husayn crisis, and without any resistance from the organization led by al-Khityar.

Israel has also received, out of the blue, a strong pretext for its claim which it always calls the "historic right" to Palestine and which used to be an object of the world's ridicule but has now been seriously affirmed by Saddam Husayn's historic right to Kuwait!

More amazing is al-Khityar's support for occupation when his country is occupied and he has been burned by that kind of fire!

Besides, that weakens the Palestinian argument rejecting the Israeli occupation, since the representative of the cause himself supports occupation!

Occupation is occupation, be it Arab or Israeli. And no civilized person in the world would support occupation, regardless of its form or justifications!

Al-Khityar has opened a door through which the hot wind is blowing over the Palestinian cause—a door which, regrettably, cannot be closed!

Council of Ministers Praises Embassies in Kuwait

LD0410221290 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic
2013 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Council of Ministers' statement on the situation of fraternal and friendly countries' embassies in the State of Kuwait—dispatch from Kuwait from the "State of Kuwait Television Message" program]

[Text] The Council of Ministers has reviewed a report on the regrettable situation facing the embassies of fraternal and friendly countries accredited in the State of Kuwait and on the harassment of the Iraqi forces of oppression against diplomats at those embassies.

The Council of Ministers would like to affirm that the criminal Iraqi regime brought against itself a situation of international isolation when it carried out, with stupidity, its aggression against the State of Kuwait and its oppressive measures against those embassies and diplomats accredited there in violation of all international charters and norms making it incumbent upon countries to treat diplomats well.

The Council of Ministers, while hailing the honorable stances taken by fraternal and friendly countries that have kept their embassies in the State of Kuwait, disregarding the renegade Iraqi regime's threats and menaces, salutes the steadfastness of the diplomats accredited in the State of Kuwait. They have proved, beyond any doubt, that they are true soldiers struggling to see that truth prevails and wrong is defeated. We call upon the whole world to support them and to consolidate their efforts by increasing their efforts on and confrontation with Saddam Husayn's regime until this corrupted regime is compelled to heed the international community's will. May God be our guide.

Minister Meets With Arab League's Al-As'ad

LD0410104590 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0726 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] New York, 4 Oct (SPA)—Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal today in New York met with acting Arab League Secretary-General As'ad al-As'ad. His Royal Highness also attended the coordination meeting of the Council of Arab League Foreign Ministers, which was held on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly meeting in New York.

During the meeting, the Arab stance toward international issues was discussed and the importance of implementing the resolutions of the Arab League and the UN Security Council concerning Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the need for Iraq to withdraw its forces from Kuwait without any restrictions or conditions and for the return of the legitimate government of Kuwait was reaffirmed.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Bandar Bin Sultan Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz, the Kingdom's ambassador to the United States and member of its delegation to the UN General Assembly session.

Minister Says Essential Goods 'Plentiful'*LD0210015490 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2335 GMT
1 Oct 90*

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 1 Oct (SPA)—Commerce Minister Dr. Sulayman al-Sulayyim confirmed that essential goods are plentiful in the local markets in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and that they have not been affected by the Iraqi invasion of the fraternal state of Kuwait.

Dr al-Sulayyim noted that essential consumer commodities are available in abundance. He said that competition still remains the basis of trade in the economy of the kingdom, since this acts to reduce prices. He pointed to the fall in the price of sugar to below what it had been before the crisis, as an example. [passage omitted]

His Excellency discussed trade relations between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union. He said that relations with the Soviet Union are old. The merchant can open a letter of credit through any bank in order to import goods from the Soviet Union. He explained that the kingdom had imported a quantity of materials and motor cars from the Soviet Union.

His excellency said that the resumption of relations with the Soviet Union, and the honorable stand of the Soviet Union toward the Gulf crisis, will pave the way for closer relations. The Kingdom will have new markets and new alternatives for many products. [passage omitted]

Kuwaiti Amir Receives Saudi Delegation*LD2809204690 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic
1902 GMT 28 Sep 90*

[From the "State of Kuwait Television Message"]

[Text] His highness the amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, may God protect him, received at the State of Kuwait's delegation's residence in New York last night His Royal Highness Prince Bandar Bin-Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, Saudi ambassador to the United States, who was accompanied by His Royal Highness Muhammad Bin-Nawaf Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's permanent representative to the United Nations.

The meeting was attended by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; and Abd al-Rahman Salim al-Attiqui, adviser of the office of his highness the amir.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Receives Romanian Envoy*LD2609223390 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2005 GMT
26 Sep 90*

[Text] Al-Ta'if, 26 Sep (SPA)—His Highness Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, received this evening Mr. Romulus Neagu, secretary of state at the Romanian Foreign Ministry, who handed his highness a message from Romanian President Ion Iliescu concerning bilateral relations.

The meeting was attended by Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Sabah [as received] the Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, and was also attended by the delegation accompanying the Romanian secretary.

United Arab Emirates**British Energy Minister Meets Defense Minister***JN2909160490 Manama WAKH in English 1540 GMT
29 Sep 90*

[Text] Dubai, Sept 29 (GNA)—UAE [United Arab Emirates] Minister of Defence Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Rashid Al Maktum received today British Energy Secretary John Wakeham who is visiting the UAE.

They discussed bilateral relations in all aspects and the situation in the international oil market in the light of the region's current conditions.

The meeting was attended by British Ambassador to the UAE Graham Stewart Burton.

Confers With Oil Minister*JN3009103990 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0805 GMT
30 Sep 90*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 Sep (WAKH)—Dr. Mani' Bin-Sa'id al-'Utaibah, minister of petroleum and natural resources in the United Arab Emirates [UAE], met here this morning with John Wakeham, British secretary of state for energy, who is currently visiting the UAE. During the meeting, they reviewed developments in the international oil market.

Delivers Message to President*JN3009125990 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic
0930 GMT 30 Sep 90*

[Excerpt] His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the state, has received a message from British Prime Minister Mrs. Margaret Thatcher. The message deals with the latest developments in the Gulf region and Britain's support for and solidarity with international efforts to resolve the crisis.

The message was conveyed by Mr. John Wakeham, British secretary of state for energy, during his meeting with the president of state this morning. [passage omitted]

Comments on Oil Shortage*JN0110131190 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0520 GMT
1 Oct 90*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 Sep (WAKH)—John Wakeham, British secretary of state for energy, said that although he believes there is a shortage in oil supplies, this will not cause major problems because of huge strategic reserves and the rationalization of consumption.

Speaking at a news conference in Abu Dhabi this evening before leaving for his country, the British secretary of

state for energy praised Saudi Arabia and other states for increasing their production to compensate for the shortage in petroleum supplies.

He said the shortage of supplies resulting from the suspension of Kuwaiti and Iraqi supplies, which amount to 4 million barrels per day, could be compensated through increased production by the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and other states, and by the existence of huge reserves.

The British secretary of state for energy indicated that the increase in oil prices is not due to a problem in demand and supply, but a result of fear arising from developments in the region. He said: "I do not share this pessimistic view."

He added that efforts must concentrate on warding off the scourge of war from the region through the implementation of the economic embargo resolutions against Iraq, saying: "If we see that these resolutions are not effective enough to achieve the peaceful objective, there are tougher measures. This is our policy."

He added that, in the event of war in the region, oil prices will depend on the extent of shortage in petroleum supplies.

He reaffirmed the world will not suffer a shortage in supplies because of the presence huge reserves, which greatly exceed those that existed during the previous crises. He said there is no reason now to use the reserves.

He said there is continuous coordination between Britain and some OPEC member states on developments in the oil market. His current visit to the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia is part of this effort, he added.

Leaves 30 Sep

JN3009201390 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1712 GMT
30 Sep 90

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 30 Sep (WAKH)—John Wakeham, British secretary of state for energy, left Abu Dhabi today following a two-day visit to the United Arab Emirates. [passage omitted]

Belgian Defense Minister Arrives for Gulf Talks

JN3009203490 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1710 GMT
30 Sep 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 Sep (WAKH)—Belgian National Defense Minister Guy Coeme and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Abu Dhabi today.

During the visit, the Belgian defense minister will hold talks with senior officials in the United Arab Emirates on the latest developments in the Gulf region.

Pakistani Prime Minister Arrives 26 Sep

JN2709192290 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0515 GMT
27 Sep 90

[Text] Dubayy, 26 Sep (WAKH)—Pakistani Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi arrived here tonight on a short visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE] as part of his current tour of the region.

He was received by Finance and Industry Minister Shaykh Hamdan Bin-Rashid al-Maktum, Defense Minister Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Rashid al-Maktum, Dubai Civil Aviation Director Shaykh Ahmad Bin-Sa'id al-Maktum, and the Pakistani Ambassador to the UAE.

Shaykh Zayid Receives Kuwaiti Ministers

JN2709173690 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1520 GMT
27 Sep 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Sept 27 (GNA)—UAE President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan received today Kuwaiti Minister of Social Affairs Shaykh Jabir 'Abdallah al-Jabir and Kuwaiti Minister of Housing Yahya Fahd al-Sumayt.

They discussed developments in the region in the light of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait as well as the brotherly relations between the two countries.

Yemen

Salih Reported Under Iraqi Guard; 1,000 Arrested

PM0310114090 Jeddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic
28 Sep 90 p 1

[Khalid al-Matrafi report: "Yemeni Unity Will Collapse Soon"]

[Text] Informed sources have revealed to AL-MADINAH that the Yemeni authorities have arrested a large numbers of Islamic figures who condemned the 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih government's bias toward Iraqi dictator Saddam Husayn. The sources said that 1,000 people have already been detained and indicated that the campaign of arrests is still continuing.

The sources said that Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih is now closely guarded by an Iraqi garrison under orders from Iraqi officers who in turn receive instructions directly from Muhammad 'Abdallah Salih, brother of the Yemeni president and commander of the reserve forces, who was appointed after the Iraqi aggression to take charge of his brother's movements.

The sources said that over 500 Iraqis have worked in the Yemeni intelligence organ over the past two years and that their number has increased to 1,000 since the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait.

The sources said that Yemen is experiencing a split in its national unity with a growing number of people opposed to the government's position on the Gulf crisis. Yemeni

unity is expected to collapse soon, especially since Vice President 'Ali Salim al-Bid has been dissatisfied with statements by some Yemeni officials which do not serve Yemeni interests.

It is worth mentioning that Muhammad 'Abdallah Salih, brother of the Yemeni president, earns \$100,000 a month from the Iraqi Embassy, owns three villas in Iraq including one in the Salah-al-Din area in the Northern Governorate, and is the right hand which carries out Iraq's instructions. Four days before the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait he visited Baghdad, where he met with Sa'dun Hammadi and members of Iraqi intelligence.

Foreign Minister Receives U.S., Other Envoys

JN0310095690 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Brother Foreign Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani received today ambassadors of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council in Sanaa—the ambassadors of the United States of America, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, France, and China.

He reviewed with each ambassador separately developments in the region and the possibilities of reaching a peaceful solution of the Gulf crisis and our country's efforts in this respect.

Committee, Party Discuss Development, Returnees

JN0310121390 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] The joint meeting of the General Committee of the General People's Congress and the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Political Bureau resumed last night co-chaired by brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Presidential Council chairman and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, Presidential Council vice chairman and YSP secretary general. The conferees resumed discussions on many national issues and ways to strengthen national progress in the political, economic, and security areas. They also discussed coordination and joint action between the General People's Congress and the YSP and among political forces and organizations in the country, especially at this important stage of the life of our people and our nation and in light of all the current changes in the Yemeni homeland and around it on the regional, Arab, and international levels.

The meeting underscored the importance of unifying all efforts of all the people's factions and political forces to reinforce national cohesion, strengthen the internal front, use all energies to achieve the higher national goals, and preserve all the great achievements and gains of the Yemeni revolution, foremost of which is the giant unity.

The meeting also stressed the need to draw up decisive and sound remedies rapidly to overcome any negative aspects that have resulted from the past division and to proceed toward a comprehensive and broad national

vision in order to achieve all the desired goals in light of the coherent and integrated sacrifice of all the sons of the people and their political forces.

The meeting fully discussed the effect of the Gulf crisis on our country, especially those pertaining to the conditions of Yemeni expatriates and the return of thousands of them to the homeland as a result of the measures taken against them by the Saudi Government. It then expressed appreciation for the steps and measures taken by the Presidential Council, urging the government to deal with the conditions of Yemeni returnees, to extend every possible facility to them, to guarantee a stable life for them inside the homeland, and to make use of their experience and energies in the interest of the goals and comprehensive development of the homeland.

The meeting urged all competent authorities to carry out their duties and to take the necessary measures to extend further facilities to the brother expatriates. It then expressed the need to draw up a national program to respond to the requirements of the current situation, all the changes in the national arena, and to fulfill aspirations for further progress and a more comprehensive cultural awakening. It also emphasized the importance of mobilizing all energies and potentials, exploiting all national resources in the battle of national development in the best manner possible, implementing development plans and programs in accordance with priorities and actual requirements, and establishing a solid productive base to achieve self-sufficiency for our people, especially in the agricultural field.

The meeting also stressed the need to generate political action and enable all the factions of the people, primarily political forces and organizations and the popular organizations, to shoulder their responsibilities and overcome all factors hampering the process of the national progress, and to work to deepen national awareness and the spirit of patriotism to strengthen national unity, preserve all the great achievements and gains of the Yemeni revolution, and to build the new Yemeni society on strong and developed foundations.

People's Congress Standing Committee Elected

JN0210162490 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] The complementary conference of the General People's Congress' fourth general conference resumed its work in Sanaa this morning under the chairmanship of brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Presidential Council chairman and secretary general of the General People's Congress. During the session, 24 Standing Committee members were elected. There were 112 candidates of the 282 delegates who came from the Congress' branches in the southern and eastern governorates. The session was attended by the members of the Standing Committee of the General People's Congress.

Minister Carries Message on Crisis to Djibouti

JN2909204690 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Transportation Minister Salih 'Abdallah Muthanna left for Djibouti this evening on a tour that will also cover Sudan and Somalia, during which he will convey messages from Presidential Council Chairman Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to his brothers Djibouti President Hassan Gouled, Sudanese Revolution Command Council

Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, and Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre.

In a statement to SABA, he said that the message to the Djibouti president deals with relations between our country and fraternal Djibouti and ways to promote them. It also touches on developments in the Arab arena, especially developments in the Gulf crisis and our country's efforts to find a peaceful solution to it within the Arab framework.

Saddam Allows Four Germans To Return Home*JN0510085390 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0837 GMT
5 Oct 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Oct (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has ordered that four German guests of Iraq be allowed to leave the country.

This was stated to INA by Sa'di Mahdi Salih, National Assembly speaker. He said the president's initiative is an expression of the Iraqi people's sharing the joy of the German people for reuniting the two parts of their country.

The National Assembly speaker said the four guests will leave with Mrs. Brigitta, member of the German People's Chamber and deputy leader of the Democratic Renaissance Party, [name and title as received] currently visiting Iraq.

Depart 5 Oct*JN0510095790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0925 GMT
5 Oct 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Oct (INA)—In implementation of President Saddam Husayn's order, four German citizens left Baghdad this morning with Mrs. Brigitta, member of the German People's Chamber. [name and title as received]

In statements to INA, the departing German guests voiced thanks and gratitude for the good hospitality and total care they received during their stay from the people and government of Iraq. They said President Saddam Husayn's decision to allow them to travel or stay in Iraq is a message of peace to the world that reflects Iraq's good intention to achieve security and peace in the region and the world.

Stranded Businessmen Critical of Gulf Policy*OW0510032090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0248 GMT
5 Oct 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Oct. 4 KYODO—Japanese businessmen stranded here since Iraq invaded Kuwait two months ago are critical of the Japanese Government's policies in the Persian Gulf and say they are living the life of "hostages" in the Iraqi capital.

Masahiro Tofukuji, director of the Marubeni Corp. branch office here, and some 60 Japanese businessmen currently prevented from going home by Iraq, voiced their concerns and criticisms in a meeting with a Japan Socialist Party (JSP) delegation led by Osamu Yatabe.

There are currently an estimated 168 Japanese businessmen in Baghdad. Besides them, at least 141 Japanese nationals are believed to be held at strategic military and industrial facilities in Iraq as human shields to deter potential attacks.

"We thought Japan and France would be the contacts through which Iraq could reach a resolution to the crisis, but Japan has not made any peace proposals," said a Japanese businessman.

The Japanese group explained that they were being refused permission to return home by Iraq because Baghdad believes that the Japanese Government is "acting in concert with the American position."

Further, because Japan is going along with the United Nations-imposed trade embargo on Iraq, they said life for Japanese grows increasingly difficult as food provisions and other daily necessities are prevented from entering Iraq.

"How can a nation say anything about world peace when it cannot even protect the human rights of its citizens?" another Japanese said.

The businessmen told the JSP delegation that although the 168 Japanese in Baghdad are said to be free, they receive phone calls to make sure they are home and they are checked up on if they are away from the office for more than 48 hours.

"We do not receive any food ration coupons, so we are forced to procure food for ourselves," one of the Japanese businessmen said. He said their lives are virtually the same as the hostages. "We are blocked in every direction."

He said that the Japanese worry daily about "when will the war begin," adding that "if I die, I want to die in Japan with my wife and children."

Some Japanese businessmen expressed a hope for former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru to come to Iraq.

The JSP delegation told the Japanese business community that arrangements for an overland "pipeline" for emergency provisions for the Japanese have been made by the Japanese Red Cross through its counterpart in Iraq.

"I will transmit everyone's messages to the Government. I will do my best to bring an end to your troubles as soon as possible," Yatabe assured the businessmen.

Opposition Group Leader Says Unity Difficult*NC0510094990 Paris AFP in English 0840 GMT
5 Oct 90*

[Text] Damascus, Oct 5 (AFP)—Iraq's exiled opposition groups, fragmented and deeply divided, are having a hard time trying to forge unity against President Saddam Husayn, the leader of one group has said here in an interview.

Mohammad Taqieddin Modarresi, head of the Islamic Action Organization (IAO), confirmed that a meeting of the various groups, scheduled for late last month here in Damascus, had not taken place and a new date had still not been fixed.

"It is not easy to reach unanimity, and above all it is necessary to agree on a satisfactory plan to cater for the demands of the Iraqi masses and for all the different currents" in the opposition, Mr. Modarresi told Agence France-Presse.

The planned meeting had been announced in mid-September in an exiled Kuwaiti newspaper by Jalal Talebani, head of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, with a view to creating a united front to overthrow the Husayn regime and replace it with a democratic one.

"Preliminary meetings between factions within each tendency... have so far allowed us to get rid of several obstacles and psychological barriers created by the successive regimes, both among the population in Iraq and between opposition groups abroad," Mr. Modarresi said.

"Participants at the preliminary meetings agreed on several principles: the unity of Iraq's territory, and the equality, freedom and originality of Iraq's people," the opposition leader said.

"We overcame one fundamental sticking-point: the Kurdish question, by succeeding in re-establishing trust between Arabs and Kurds," he added.

That trust "will allow the Iraqi opposition to lay the groundwork for an agreement for the future of the country."

It would nevertheless be "premature" to discuss the creation of a government in exile at the present time, Mr. Modarresi said.

There are a total of around 20 exiled opposition groups, divided into three main tendencies: national-progressive, Kurdish nationalist and Shi'ite Moslem fundamentalist, Iraqi opposition activists said.

Most of them are based in Syria—the only major Arab country which sided with Iran in its war against Iraq—and in Iran. Their credibility inside Iraq is in question because of their links to Baghdad's traditional foes.

Mr. Modarresi said his group accepted the foreign military presence which is ranged against Iraq in the Gulf region because it accepted the legitimacy of the United Nations. The United Nations needed to be effective in applying its resolutions against Iraq, "starting with the most tolerant ones," he said.

However he said his group would not call for military action against Iraq, "because that would harm not only this region, but several other peoples. We want economic and political pressure to bear fruit," he said. One way the outside world could help would be by "helping the Iraqi opposition to take Saddam's place," he noted.

Commentary Criticizes Bush Speech to UN

LD0310225990 Baghdad International Service
in English 2100 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] In his United Nations General Assembly speech the United States' President, George Bush, spoke of a rosy world, free of conflicts. He also spoke of a democratic, oppression-free world, stressing his country's example of prosperity and racial tolerance. President Bush spoke as though the world was so tranquil, justice was deep-rooted, not a single human was persecuted. There was not an instance of a nation suffering from hard (?luck times) and, above all, as though there were no flash points in the world which would any time throw this Bush-created fabulous world into turmoil.

Initially the United States is not an as flawless society as he claimed. There is in fact a glaring example in the United States of every state of injustice, persecution, degrading poverty, racism, political prejudice, and lust for domination. Millions of Americans are living under the poverty line. Under an American democracy these homeless can sit before the White House begging, airing grave doubts, and demanding solutions to their plight. But, under this same democracy there is no guarantee that their desperate cries would find an ear to listen. The world is not so tranquil as Mr. Bush tried to impress. It is still rife with active conflicts and dormant disputes that make any talk of a problem-free world a far cry.

Until recently East-West rivalry was at the root of almost every conflict. In Vietnam, Kampuchea, Latin America, and the Middle East there remained instances of the United States and the Soviet Union jockeying for more spheres of influence with one of them doing one thing and the other reacting. Now that the Soviet Union has abandoned its superpower role the cold war, as Mr. Bush claimed, is a thing of the past and U.S.-Soviet rivalry has turned into a new international system. However, it is still preposterous to suggest that it was a Kubla Khan type world until 2 August when the Gulf crisis started. Under East-West (?rapprochement) there remained a most glaring example of Israeli occupation and the Palestinian people denied by the occupier of the basic human rights of which Bush has claimed to be a stalwart defender.

It is a state of disgrace in American political behaviour to apply double standards vis-a-vis various international issues. Israel has received a worldwide condemnation for the occupation of lands, expulsion of the Palestinian people, and acts of oppression unseen elsewhere in the world. The United Nations, which Mr. Bush spoke so favorably of, has issued so many resolutions demanding Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories, (?and to use of) excessive force, adherence to the Geneva conventions on the treatment of civilians under occupation, and help to deportation of Palestinians. None of these resolutions has been implemented and Israel has not been deterred simply because the United States'

Administration willfully blocked United Nations bids with its Godsend [as heard] veto.

President Bush should have remembered he is still a long way from this ideal world as long as he allows acts of injustice to pass with impunity simply because they are linked to American interests. With such a blinkered view there is bound to be a new state of confrontation. But this time between small nations on the one hand and an America trying to have things tailored to its own (?measure) on the other. [sentence as heard] After all it does not fit a U.S. President to say one thing and do another.

Editor Berates Bush on 'Contradictory' Remarks

JN0410155190 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1510 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] The INA international affairs editor has commented on the statements made by Bush yesterday in which he noted that he is not in the region for oil only, but to confront Iraq.

The INA editor said: Bush has placed himself in a clear contradiction. After revealing the intentions of his presence in the Gulf, he said that his success is linked with this part of the world. Bush also stated that the United States relies completely on the Arabian Gulf to supply it with fuel, particularly fuel for household heating and cars.

The INA editor added: Bush's flagrant contradictory statements reveal the shallowness of his thinking. This meeting [with journalists] was not prepared in advance by his advisers in order to instruct him on what to say. This placed him in an quagmire—though he describes himself as a leader and the head of the world's superpower. He also threatened, with his aggressive and terrorist policies and his known measures in the region, to impose an embargo and starve women and children in Iraq.

U.S., Allies Warned Not To 'Overstay' in Region

JN0410161890 Baghdad INA in English 1130 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, Oct. 4, INA—U.S. President George Bush has brought tens of thousands of American troops to the extremely volatile region of the Arab Gulf, where the material for fire is already abundant. About 40 per cent of the world oil runs under the blazing heat of the Gulf region and could well set an inextinguishable fire ablaze through a spark.

In its editorial THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER said that the United States must be aware of the fact that any aggression against Iraq could lead to setting the whole Gulf oil on fire. Besides the highly flammable liquid of the region, the people's tempers tend to be very hot because of the injustice they feel with hundreds of thousands of foreign troops brought from distant countries to occupy their lands.

The people of the region can easily have their temper boil for one reason or another, especially over the

question of dignity. To make matters worse, the feelings of the people of the region have been further provoked by the occupation of their most sacred places, the holy cities of Mecca and al-Madinah. The U.S. occupation of the sacred lands of the Moslems has come as a shock to the Arabs and Moslems, especially as their third most holy city of al-Quds (Jerusalem) is still under Israeli occupation.

There are a lot more things to take into account before anyone should rush into a miscalculated adventure which would boomerang back on the adventurers. In all cases, it would be totally unwise of the United States and its allies to overstay in the region.

They should withdraw from the region without more delay, because their stay here is truly unwelcome, notwithstanding the false claims by some regimes who have betrayed their nation and religion.

The warm waters of the Arab Gulf and the blazing desert of the region should serve as a warning to the United States and to the war-mongers who are seeking to dominate the oil-rich region and subjugate its people. If the U.S. were to heed the warning, it should leave the region as soon as it can, otherwise, it might find itself in a situation in which it would lose a great deal. Thousands of Americans could lose their lives in any adventure and the oil, which the U.S. is so much after, could end up in a gushing fire.

The best way for the U.S. to avoid a disaster that would bring shame to the Bush Administration would be to withdraw from the region, especially as Mr. Bush must have realized by now that the Arab and Moslems do not want the Americans or any other foreign powers here.

This region is not for grabs, nor is it safe to toy with. Will the U.S. heed the advice? This is yet to be seen, for fools rush where angels fear to tread.

USSR's Primakov Arrives in Baghdad 4 Oct

JN0410114390 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1115 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Oct (INA)—Yevgeniy Primakov, the Soviet president's special envoy and member of the USSR Presidential Council, arrived in Baghdad this morning leading a delegation on a visit to Iraq.

He expressed pleasure to be visiting Iraq and told INA that he would hold talks and exchange views with Iraqi officials on the current situation in the Arab region. He said the situation in the Arabian Gulf is not an easy one and stressed the need for a political solution to the problem so as to avoid a military explosion.

He was received at the airport by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and the Soviet ambassador in Baghdad.

Meets With 'Aziz

JN0410191890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1840 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Oct (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Yevgeniy Primakov, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's special envoy and member of the USSR Presidential Council, and the accompanying delegation. They discussed bilateral relations and exchanged viewpoints on the current situation in the Arabian Gulf, in addition to a number of issues of common interest.

The meeting was attended by the under secretary of the Foreign Ministry and the heads of the International Organizations and Conferences and the Third Political Desks at the Foreign Ministry.

Hammadi, USSR's Belousov Discuss Developments

JN0410185590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Oct (INA)—Revolution Command Council Member Sa'dun Hammadi received here this evening Igor Belousov, deputy prime minister of the USSR, who is on a visit to Iraq. They discussed developments in the region and relations between Iraq and the USSR.

The meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministry under secretary, the deputy minister of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, and the commercial adviser in the Soviet Embassy in Baghdad.

Saddam, 'Arafat Confer on Regional Issues

JN0410155990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Oct (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has received Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, and his accompanying delegation. They discussed the situation in the Arab region, the Palestine question, and current developments.

The meeting was attended by Revolution Command Council members Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Sa'dun Hammadi, deputy prime minister; and Latif Nusayyif Jasim, culture and information minister.

Ramadan Emphasizes Rights From Zakho to Sea

JN0310192290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1510 GMT
3 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Oct (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister, today received Muhammad 'Abbas, Abu-al-'Abbas, leader of the Palestine Liberation Front [PLF], and the PLF Political Bureau members accompanying him.

The first deputy prime minister emphasized Iraq's clear and explicit position and said Iraq will not cede its legitimate rights from Zakho to the sea. He added that large-scale preparations have been made to defend these rights and that the presence of the U.S. and Western forces will not protect the plotters and agents in the land of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] and the Arabian Peninsula, but will be a fire that will burn them and their masters.

He added that Palestine will not return through the pleading and begging orchestrated by agent Husni because the policy of fear and capitulation he leads has only increased the Zionists' arrogance and hostile expansionist policy.

Taha Yasin Ramadan noted that the road of jihad, martyrdom, and Arab power is the one that will return Palestine to its legal owners, who are becoming stronger, firmer, and more rebellious against the Zionist occupiers and their American allies.

Abu-al-'Abbas stressed that the phase the Arab nation is going through has exposed the falsehood of the slogans raised by some Arab rulers about liberating Jerusalem and praying in the al-Aqsa mosque. He added that the intifadah of the broad Arab masses throughout the Arab arena is a warning to all the agent rulers who placed the destiny and future of the Arabs—nation, land, and wealth—in the hands of America and Zionism, the enemies of the Arabs and plunderers of their wealth, the occupiers of their land, and expellers of their sons.

He stated that America will regret its policy of arrogance and aggression, emphasizing that the United States, along with its agents, will be surprised by the methods of reply to any aggression they commit against Iraq and the Arab nation.

Tokyo-Based Group Arrives With Food, Medicine

JN0410171490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Oct (INA)—The delegation of the international Rainbow Ship [name as received] organization led by Komi [name as received] arrived in Baghdad this afternoon on a three-day visit to Iraq. In a statement to INA, Komi said that his Tokyo-based organization provided Iraq with quantities of food, children's milk, and medical supplies to support the steadfastness of the Iraqi people in the face of the economic embargo imposed by the United States, its allies, and agents. He noted that the objective of the organization is to offer assistance and protection from the unjust, repressive measures imposed by the colonialist countries against the people of Iraq.

The delegation was received at the airport by officials from the Iraqi Red Crescent Society.

Ramadan Comments on Talks With Japanese Premier*JN0510103490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0858 GMT
5 Oct 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Oct (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, returned to Baghdad last night following a two-day visit to Jordan.

In a statement to INA, Taha Yasin Ramadan said that during the visit he met with His Majesty King Husayn and conveyed to him a message from President Saddam Husayn which expressed the satisfaction of the Iraqi leadership and people with the model, intimate relations with fraternal Jordan which continue to deepen and expand. The message also voiced high praise for the national and pan-Arab positions of the courageous Jordanian people, he said.

He added that the message also stressed Iraq's sincere concern to achieve peace in the region, on the condition that Iraq does not abandon its historical geographical and demographical rights from Zakho to the sea; that the Zionist troops withdraw from all occupied Arab territories in Palestine, Syria, and Lebanon; and that the U.S. and foreign troops withdraw from the lands of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] and the Arabian Peninsula.

The first deputy prime minister said that he discussed with His Majesty King Husayn and other Jordanian officials the future of relations between the two countries and the new spheres that would bolster their advanced march, as well as the dimensions of the U.S.-Zionist-reactionary conspiracy against Iraq and the Arab nation which has now become public and is being implemented from the Arab sacred lands in Najd, Hejaz, and the Arabian Peninsula.

Taha Yasin Ramadan said that he briefed the Jordanian leaders on the Iraqi and Arab high preparedness to face any aggression which the United States may launch against Iraq and the major defeat which will change the U.S. Administration's policy that is based on arrogance, aggression, and the plundering of the Arabs' wealth to make them go hungry and deprive them of prosperity and wellbeing.

He said His Majesty King Husayn asked him to convey his greetings to his brother President Saddam Husayn and his stress on the strength of the Iraqi-Jordanian ties under all conditions. He pointed out that His Majesty King Husayn emphasized the need to double the sincere and serious efforts to achieve comprehensive peace in the region to guarantee the Arabs' legitimate rights in their land and wealth and the fields of scientific progress.

He said the results of his visit to fraternal Jordan and his talks with the brother leaders were excellent, and that the coming phase will witness intensive bilateral activity on the official level, as well as on the professional and popular levels, to deepen the bilateral relations to serve the Arab nation and achieve its historical and legitimate objectives.

Taha Yasin Ramadan said that during his visit to Jordan he met with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and discussed with him the bilateral relations and their future, in addition to the developments in the Arabian Gulf.

The first deputy prime minister said that his talks with the Japanese prime minister were important and that the Iraqi and Japanese sides presented their viewpoints on the situation in the Arabian Gulf. They also stressed the importance of continuing the meetings, which will take place now and in the future, among officials in the two countries because they will serve the bilateral relations and help find solutions to the problems of common interest.

Taha Yasin Ramadan pointed out that the Japanese position supports finding a peaceful solution in the Arabian Gulf and continuing the Arab and international efforts to achieve peace and avert war in this region because it will have devastating results on mankind.

Federations Protest Decision To Oust Country*JN0410160290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1937 GMT
3 Oct 90*

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 3 Oct (INA)—The Federation of the Iraqi Chambers of Commerce and the Federation of the Iraqi Chambers of Industry have condemned the decision of the Federation of the Arabian Gulf Chambers at their recent London meeting to drop Iraq's membership in the federation and to change the name of the federation into the Federation of the Chambers of the Gulf Cooperation Council Member States.

The two federations described the decision of the treasonous London meeting as null and void from the legal point of view. They added that the decision seeks to sabotage joint Arab action to serve the objectives of the U.S.-Zionist conspiracy in the region.

In statements to INA, the chairmen of the two federations pointed out that the decision to expel Iraq from the Federation of the Arabian Gulf Chambers and to change the name of the federation is a flagrant violation of the basic law of the federation. [passage omitted]

INA has learned that the Federation of the Iraqi Chambers of Commerce and the Federation of the Iraqi Chambers of Industry asked the General Secretariat of the Federation of the Arabian Gulf Chambers to call for an urgent meeting to be held in an Arab country to revoke the suspect decision and show respect for the acceptable legal rules and regulations pertaining to the holding of any meetings or sessions for the federation.

Jihad Leader Says Iran Can Help Foil Blockade*JN0510090390 Baghdad AL-QADISIYAH in Arabic
1 Oct 90 p 4*

[Interview with As'ad Bayyud al-Tamimi, leader of the Islamic Jihad-Bayt al-Maqdis Movement and former director and preacher of Jerusalem's al-Aqsa Mosque, by 'Ala' Khalil Nasir in Baghdad; date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Nasir] What is your reaction to the step taken by the rulers of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] to bring in the forces of infidelity and falsehood to the land of the heavenly message and the tomb of the prophet, God's mercy and blessings be upon him?

[Al-Tamimi] The Al Sa'ud step to bring in foreigners and Jews is a crime which God does not accept. Al Sa'ud should not have brought infidels to the land of Najd and Hejaz. The Jews were expelled by 'Umar [Ibn-al-Khattab, the second Muslim caliph] and there is no legal justification for the Americans and Jews occupying the Arab lands once again. [passage omitted]

[Nasir] Do you think the United States and its allies can achieve their objectives in the region?

[Al-Tamimi] The United States cannot possibly achieve its objectives in the region. It has involved itself and the world in a military demonstration never before seen in history. However, when it later awoke, it found that Saddam has prepared all resources for the battle. Therefore, it does not know what to do, especially since the American soldier does not want war because war means his destruction and doom, and will quickly take him straight to hell. He also knows that his country is self-sufficient, even in oil, so why should he die for the sake of the seven oil companies and for the sake of the Al Sa'ud, al Sabah, and the other Al's. [families] Therefore, he, Bush, is trying to find a way out to save face. Even if war starts, it will bring good because it will put an end to certain conditions in the region and end the state of the Jews.

[Nasir] What is your comment on the economic blockade imposed on the people of Iraq?

[Al-Tamimi] I have issued a fatwa [religious ruling] on the economic blockade in which I accused of infidelity every Muslim who takes part in it because it is unacceptable to starve Iraq's men, women, and children. However, the infidels and their agents do not hesitate in committing the ugliest crimes to humiliate Muslims. But, they will be disappointed. Iraq is an agricultural country, and is the biggest producer of dates in the world, and he who has dates will never go hungry. Also, Iran will not close its borders with Iraq and will not take part in this crime; and I have sent a cable to Mr. 'Ali Khamene'i in this regard. If Iran opens its borders, and it will God willing, then the blockade will fail. I appeal to all Muslims and to the Iraqi people to prepare themselves for battle, the battle of destiny and the greatest confrontation. The doors to paradise have been flung open to receive the martyrs, and the doors to hell have been flung open to receive the infidels and their agents, the ex-Muslims. [passage omitted]

Oil Installations in 'Kuwait Governorate' Renamed
JN0410162490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Oct (INA)—The Oil Ministry has given new names to the oil installations in Kuwait

Governorate. The al-Ahmadi Refinery has been renamed the al-Nida' Refinery; the 'Abdallah Refinery has become the Saddam Refinery; the East of al-Ahmadi Filling Station has become the East of al-Nida' Filling Station; the King Faysal Street Filling Station has become the Babylon Street Filling Station; the 'Abdallah Port Filling Station has become the Saddam Port Filling Station; the Sabah al-Salim Area Filling Station has become the al-Nasr [victory] Filling Station; and al-Jabiriyah Filling Station has become the al-Shumukh [pride] Filling Station.

Minister on Ways To 'Beat the Blockade'

JN0410161590 Baghdad INA in English 1250 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, Oct. 40, INA—As part of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation's measures to foil the economic blockade against Iraq, grain growing areas in the country have been expanded.

A report published here today by THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER daily has further added that the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, Mr. 'Abd-al-Wahhab Mahmud said this procedure is undertaken by the ministry to reach food self-sufficiency, particularly for the main grain supplies of wheat, rice and barley.

Iraq's leadership has issued many regulations and decisions to develop agriculture to beat the blockade and to enable the agricultural sector to attain self-sufficiency in many agricultural products.

Iraq's Tigris and the Euphrates with their tributaries provide abundant water supply. In addition, the country's climate and rich arable lands help in enhancing its agricultural production.

The Revolution Command Council issued a number of decisions and regulations to achieve this goal. These decisions included the increase of purchasing prices from farmers for corn, wheat and barley. The new prices for those three crops range from 250 to 700 Iraqi dinars per tonne instead of 180 to 550 dinars. Improved seeds will be sold to farmers at ID [Iraqi dinar] 360 per tonne instead of 380 dinars. This step is taken to encourage farmers to use these seeds in planting their lands and to expand areas to be planted during the coming winter season.

The minister called on farmers to exert all efforts to meet the needs of Iraqi people for food, particularly wheat because of its importance as a main crop. The current blockade faced by Iraq requires that all arable lands be planted with basic agricultural crops, including all types of grain, elaborated the minister.

Moreover, a committee was formed comprising representatives of the three Ministries of Agriculture, Industry and Transport and Communications to lay down the best plan for providing Iraqi provinces with chemical fertilizers within a suitable schedule. Feasibility studies and land surveys on potential areas were carried out in

order to exploit these areas well for agricultural purposes. Facilities and relevant services were made available by the Ministry to bolster the work of agricultural sector, especially the provision of seeds, pesticides, fertilizers, planting and harvesting machines. Such facilities are necessary and important to help farmers in cultivating important types of cereals.

Big loans were also granted to farmers and cooperative societies to encourage them to expand the cultivation of arable lands. Loans worth over 586 million Iraqi dinars were granted by the agricultural cooperative bank during the last eight years. The bank imposes easy terms in lending money to farmers.

The minister of agriculture stressed that his ministry and all staffers of the agricultural sector shoulder a great and important task at a time when our country is facing an aggressive scheme by the U.S. and its allies which included an extensive economic blockade against Iraqi men, women and children. Therefore, this sector plays an important role in thwarting the U.S. schemes and providing the necessary food for people. Accordingly, the ministry had taken extra measures to achieve this end. These measures included holding many meetings and symposiums for those who work in different fields of agriculture, calling on them to cultivate as wide areas as possible of arable land during the coming season.

The ministry also called on farmers to exploit all arable lands leased by them from the government, otherwise those lands will be taken from them and leased to other persons.

Work is now in full swing to maintain drainage systems and irrigation canals.

The minister concluded his speech by saying that the current stage requires that all efforts be exerted to raise agricultural production and that Iraqi farmers do their best to help foiling the U.S.-led economic blockade against their country.

Meanwhile, IRAQI NEWS AGENCY on Tuesday reported that 10,600 donums (1 donum equals 2,500 sq.m.) of arable land were made ready in the province of al-Basrah to be cultivated with main crops of wheat and barley. Moreover, some 15,000 donums have already

been planted with various vegetable corps including tomatoes, broad beans and leaf vegetables.

In Babylon province, some 830,742 donums are to be cultivated with wheat and barley.

Permission Said Needed To Transport Cereals

JN0510082690 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic
30 Sep 90 p 4

[Text] The Trade Ministry has banned the transportation of wheat, barley, and rice from one governorate to another without a written permission issued by the Ministry's General Company For Cereals Trade.

Statement No. 7 of 1990, issued by the Ministry in this regard, states that violators will be punished according to the amended law on regulating trade No. 20 of 1970 and will face the penalties stipulated in the other economic legislations.

*** Magazine Ends Publication in Present Form**

91P40006 London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 24 Sep 90
p-3

[Editorial report] The pro-Iraq London Arabic-language magazine AL-DUSTUR, on 24 September, announces in its "First Word" column, "We regret—because we know the dear reader, who has been committed to us and we to him for more than a decade—that this is the last issue of AL-DUSTUR in its current format." AL-DUSTUR, which generally appears in a 58-page format, has been scaled down in content in the five issues after 27 August, with its 24 September issue carrying only 19 pages. The magazine cites "exceptional circumstances which have led AL-DUSTUR to limit its pages in a manner that is becoming unacceptable." AL-DUSTUR further elaborates, saying "...it is now inevitable to acknowledge that the Gulf crisis, from which heightened sensitivities have arisen poisoned by the conduct of some of the Arab censorship offices, has led to belt-tightening by the publishing houses which have pan-Arab orientations and which have adopted the Islamic Arab line in their informational slant. AL-DUSTUR leads these, naturally, in an unprecedented fashion." AL-DUSTUR attempts to inject a positive note at the end of the column, adding, "Now we are busy crystallizing another new format, which we hope will be innovative."

Shamir Expresses 'Pleasure' With Loan Accord

TA0510075090 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
5 Oct 90 p A1

[Report by Gid'on Alon and, from Washington, Ori Nir]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has expressed satisfaction with the formulation of the accord signed by Foreign Minister David Levi and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker regarding the terms of the U.S. Government loan guarantee for the \$400 million Israel wishes to raise in U.S. banks to build housing for new immigrants.

Shamir expressed his pleasure after hearing a detailed report two days ago from Levi about his meetings with 14 foreign ministers during his 10-day stay in New York. Levi's report on his meetings with Baker and other administration officials indicates that he made it clear to Baker that Israel would not be able to accept the tough terms the United States presented to it to obtain the loan guarantees, and that if the United States did not moderate its demands, Israel would forgo the U.S. guarantees and seek alternative sources for the money.

At the end of lengthy deliberations, it was agreed, however, that Israel will not cease settlement activity in the territories, and will only pledge that the loans earmarked for housing for immigrants will not be directed toward activity in the territories.

In an airport news conference upon his return from the United States, Levi said that the Israeli Government had not deviated from its policy or ideology, and has rejected the U.S. demands for receipt of the loan guarantees. Levi added that "we do not need approval from anyone."

Jerusalem political sources yesterday expressed pleasure with the terms of the agreement. They believed the most significant achievement in it lies in preparing the groundwork for additional requests for U.S. Government loan guarantees. They maintain that Israel will require an additional \$1 billion from U.S. banks to finance housing projects for the immigrants.

Ori Nir reports from Washington:

The U.S. Administration and the Israeli Government deliberately left unclear the question of whether the conditions for receipt of the loan guarantees for the housing of immigrants apply to East Jerusalem. According to the text of the agreement, Israel is committed not to settle Soviet immigrants beyond the Green Line. The administration applies this definition also to the new neighborhoods that were built around Jerusalem on areas that were taken in 1967. The Israeli Government, on the other hand, regards them as part of Israel. That is why it asked that the new Jerusalem neighborhoods not be included in the agreement, and the parties agreed to sidestep this issue.

Baker said on Tuesday that the United States never intended the guarantees to restrain Israeli settlement activity, but merely to prevent a situation in which the

guarantees would help Israel step up that activity. "Our concerns were allayed through the assurances Israel provided," he said. He added that "these assurances are more far-reaching than any previous assurances we had received."

Baker's remarks conflict with statements made by a senior Israeli diplomat that the assurances included in the agreement on the loan guarantees do not exceed assurances Israel had given before.

Details of Loan Agreement

TA0510104390 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
5 Oct 90 p A2

[Report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef]

[Text] The document of understanding signed between the United States and Israel includes an Israeli commitment not to use the U.S. loan money to provide housing for new immigrants in the territories, including East Jerusalem. In return, the United States undertakes to support Israel in times of danger.

Upon his return to Israel on the eve of Sukkoth, the foreign minister presented Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir with the agreement. Levi expressed full satisfaction with the agreement, which had been reached following strenuous efforts by an Israeli team, headed by Eytan Bentzur, assistant Foreign Ministry director general and head of the North American Department and Disarmament Affairs, and a U.S. team headed by Dennis Ross, assistant secretary of state for policy planning.

The Foreign Ministry is pleased with the achievement, mainly in light of the unacceptable demands the Americans had originally made during the initial stages of the negotiations.

The Israeli-U.S. accord, which was formulated at the beginning of this week, includes five main clauses:

1. The introduction includes four clauses that outline the understanding underlying the agreement: A. The U.S. secretary of state's readiness to accede to Israeli requests for aid; B. commitment to Israel's security; C. preservation of Israel's qualitative edge; D. U.S. readiness to stand by Israel in times of danger.
2. The Israeli Government pledges not to direct immigrants to the territories and not to offer them any special incentives, based on the letter from Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to U.S. President George Bush dated 28 June 1990 and on the declaration on the matter made by Construction and Housing Minister Ari'el Sharon.
3. The guarantee is made possible through an undertaking that the money will be invested within Israel's geographic boundaries of 5 June 1967. The accord is anchored in the definition of the terms of reference of the annual U.S. aid agreement with Israel and in the agreement on housing loan guarantees of 1980 (reached at the behest of then Prime Minister Menahem Begin).

4. The Israeli foreign minister will provide periodic updates on investments in the territories for the purpose of the U.S. secretary of state's congressional hearings.

5. The guarantee will make it possible to tackle the challenge of absorbing USSR immigrants (Jerusalem expects the United States to continue to assist in immigrant absorption in the future as well, in light of this clause).

Following the U.S. secretary of state's news conference in New York on Tuesday, official U.S. sources claimed that Israel's pledges to James Baker involve the harshest limitations Israel has ever accepted, including the promise to limit its right to establish new civilian settlements in the territories.

These reports caused concern among senior Israeli political sources, who emphasized that to date the United States has never been furnished with reports on the scope of investment in the territories, and added that it was clear that Israel regarded East Jerusalem as an inseparable part of the Green Line.

Foreign Ministry sources rejected the criticism of the agreement, and highlighted the achievement it marks in view of the original U.S. demands.

Additional \$1 Billion Request

TA0510110590 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
5 Oct 90 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] The Israeli Government plans to approach the U.S. Administration and U.S. banks with a request for loans to the tune of more than \$1 billion to finance immigrant absorption. Political sources in Jerusalem have reported that an understanding has been reached between Israeli and U.S. working teams, headed by Eytan Bentzur, assistant Foreign Ministry director general, and Dennis Ross, the secretary of state's aide, on the political terms for the U.S. guarantees. Israel pledged that the loans will be slated for immigrant absorption within the Green Line, defined as Israeli territory up to and including 5 June 1967. Israel repeats in the agreement its commitment not to direct settlers to places in the territories and not to give any special incentives to that.

Shamir Warns Saddam Against 'Terrible Blunder'

TA0510052990 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir has again warned Saddam Husayn against attacking Israel. Shamir was speaking last night to 4,000 Christian supporters of Israel who are celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem.

[Begin Shamir recording] The Iraqi dictator knows that if he should attempt to attack Israel, to damage Israel, he would pay very dearly for such a terrible blunder. [applause] He has had a previous encounter with us. Iraq is the only Arab country that did not even enter into an

armistice agreement with Israel in 1948 and that has remained in a state of war with us to this very day. We confronted this aggressive ambition nine years ago, when it was at the point of achieving nuclear capability. You will recall the remarkable attack by our Air Force in June 1981, when we destroyed the reactor at Osirak. I mention this only to emphasize how much graver today's crisis would have been for the United States and her allies if, in addition to his missiles and chemical weapons, Saddam Husayn also had that nuclear capability. [end recording]

Reporter David Essing adds that at the gathering, organized by the International Christian Embassy, the prime minister was given \$1 million to pay for 12 flights of Soviet Jews to Israel.

Senior Sources Deny Contacts With Iraq

TA0510055990 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Israel flatly denies Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's remarks that a female professor from Harvard transferred messages from Iraq to an Israeli minister. Israel also denies Mubarak's remarks that it is conducting contacts with Iraq. The sources pointed out there is no intelligence cooperation between Egypt and Israel. Our army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe reports:

Senior Israeli sources expressed surprise at Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's remarks. They said Israeli intelligence has a great deal of information about Iraq, gathered through various means. Israel is not revealing, even to its friends, the sources of this information.

In meetings between Israeli and Egyptian government representatives, views were exchanged on developments in the Gulf, and it is possible that the Egyptians were given information on the development of Iraqi arms systems. The sources said that had there been intelligence cooperation between Israel and Egypt it would have contributed to a tremendous improvement in relations between the two countries. However, since there is no such cooperation, they said, Mubarak's remarks referred to Egypt's interpretation of things said in various meetings held between representatives of the two countries. They also said that it is possible that Mubarak's remarks are part of the psychological warfare he is conducting against Saddam Husayn. It is worth pointing out that three years ago, during the war with Iran, there were those in Israel who called for a dialogue with Iraq. Those Israelis called for a dialogue with and aid to Iraq because they believed that after the war we would be facing a large power which would become a threat to Israel. [passage omitted]

Former Minister Interviewed

TA0510064490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Telephone interview from Switzerland with Labor Knesset Member Moshe Shahal, former energy and infrastructure minister, by Hayim Zissowitz and, from Tel Aviv, Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne'a—live]

[Text] [Zissowitz] Good morning, Minister Shahal.

[Shahal] Good morning. I am no longer a minister.

[Zissowitz] Yes, that is correct, but you were a minister when the events we are dealing with took place. Good morning to Aharon Barne'a in our Tel Aviv studio.

[Zissowitz] Knesset Member Moshe Shahal, in his speech Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak referred to an Israeli minister, whom he did not identify, who formed contacts with Iraq via an intermediary, Professor (Milroy) of Harvard University. Do you know the lady?

[Shahal] First, I do not agree to something that is not precise. There is a mix-up here among several things. She has visited Israel several times, met with many people, with ministers, including me, as well as academics. It is known that she visits many Middle East countries, including Iraq. In such talks it is natural that you hear details from her and you say what you have to say. Prof. (Milroy) also conducted meetings in the United States with academics from Israeli universities in which representatives from Iraq and other countries participated. I am not saying, however, that those meetings were unique. It certainly could not be said that they were part of something that had been planned or that they had clear objectives. They were held in the past, are currently being conducted, and will take place in the future with various people who visit Iraq and come to Israel. This includes journalists, professors, and politicians.

[Barne'a] Mr. Shahal, you say that you know about Prof. (Milroy's) visits to Iraq. Do you remember when Prof. (Milroy) came to Israel from Iraq via Jordan, as Mubarak claims, and brought some sort of message and that you later informed the Egyptians of it?

[Shahal] No. Look, the dramatic way that story is presented makes it worthy of a novel or a play. Such things did not take place. I do not know if she came via Jordan. I certainly did not follow up such things. Like all visitors who ask for a meeting, most at the recommendation of the Foreign Ministry, she held meetings, with me as well. It was natural that if she had been to Iraq she would come and tell us about the contents of talks she held there with Iraqi government officials.

[Barne'a] Mr. Shahal, you had contacts with Nizar Hamdun, who was Iraq's ambassador to Washington, is that correct?

[Shahal] Look, the contacts were made at the initiative of an American public figure who proposed that I meet with

Nizar Hamdun when he was ambassador to Washington. That was done, according to the American, at the request of the Iraqi ambassador. After the American's approach, U.S. Congressman Berman, representative of the committee which dealt with Iraqi affairs during the war with Iran, also proposed holding the meeting. A date was fixed: I was supposed to go, and received permission from all the relevant bodies. The meeting did not take place in the final analysis because it was rejected by the Iraqis. I can add something else, however, that in a visit I made to Cairo, President Mubarak was about to go to an Islamic conference and told me: Look, I am going via Baghdad. Why don't you come with me? I did not know whether or not he was serious; therefore I told him, I am sure I can get in there, but I am not sure they will let me out. This talk, which I heard again later, that the meetings took place is baseless. A meeting with Nizar Hamdun did not take place.

[Zissowitz] Then it is also not true that messages were not transmitted via all those channels?

[Shahal] The messages you refer to must be viewed within the right context. Messages, meaning talks in which Israel makes clear that it has no intention of attacking Iraq, that it would like Iraq to make quite different public statements than its leaders were used to making against Israel without reason, if that is what is meant, then they did exist, continue to take place, and will continue to take place. I cannot refer to more concrete messages. I would only like to tell you that Iraqi envoys, within the context of such messages, as you refer to them, kept asking why Israel is aiding Iran, and said that if Israel changes its attitude and does not prefer Iran to Iraq, then they, the Iraqis, would change their position. Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz made several declarations in Paris and in the United States which were relatively moderate to what had been said publicly before. If you are referring to such messages, then the answer is that they exist, and I suppose will continue in the future.

[Zissowitz] Knesset Member Moshe Shahal, thank you very much.

Ben-Elisar on Accusations

TA0510085890 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0600 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Telephone interview with Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, by Mikha Friedman and Li'ora Lanir—live]

[Friedman] Good morning, Mr. Ben-Elisar.

[Ben-Elisar] Good morning.

[Friedman] President Mubarak does not give up. For the second time within a week he has said in public speeches that he knows about Israeli-Iraqi contacts. In his speech yesterday, the Egyptian president even added some spice to his information: Israeli intelligence planted agents in

the Iraqi army. Reaction in Israel to Mubarak's remarks—we read in this morning's newspapers—is one of surprise and questions what Mubarak's interest could be behind the disclosure.

[Ben-Elisar] I believe that President Mubarak's interest is completely obvious. He wants to besmirch Iraq in the Arab world as part of the wars among the Arabs.

[Friedman] And for that purpose, he does not hesitate to involve us?

[Ben-Elisar] First, he says, I will show those who think that the Iraqis are innocents who they really are. Perhaps you Iraqis think you are very strong, he says; well, I will show you that according to my information the Israelis have already infiltrated your army ranks and your defense establishment—they have agents everywhere. In my view, all this is part of some psychological warfare, which might be legitimate within the framework of the current Iraqi-Egyptian enmity, but it is a great pity that President Mubarak is using us to do that, since in that way he arouses not only surprise here but disappointment and far-reaching thoughts: Why is he involving us in something that we are so eagerly trying—together with the Egyptians and the Americans and others—not to get involved in?

[Lanir] Why does he want to defame Iraq by using Israel, with which he has a peace accord?

[Ben-Elisar] There is no violation of the peace accord here. It is more the creation of an uncomfortable atmosphere. First, he is trying to hit the Iraqis, who are his immediate enemy.

[Lanir] Do his expressions not harm us from an intelligence viewpoint?

[Ben-Elisar] No. First, he does not care about the Israelis. What does he care what the Israelis think when he inserts some spicy remarks in his speech about some Israeli factory [which Mubarak alleged supplied Iraq with military equipment]? About the intelligence aspects: He knows, we know, and all those who should know do know, that there really are no intelligence contacts between Israel and Egypt.

[Friedman] You mean between Iraq and Israel.

[Ben-Elisar] First, between Egypt and Israel in the framework of which the Egyptians would be told what we are doing in Iraq. I cannot foresee Israelis, even had there been such contacts between us and the Egyptians, rushing ahead and telling them what we are doing in Iraq.

[Friedman] Knesset Member Ben-Elisar, there is a belief that President Mubarak is using old information about contacts that took place between Israel and Iraq during the Iraqi-Iranian war. Could that be what Mubarak is referring to?

[Ben-Elisar] In my view, use is being made of distorted information. The only thing which is true is that at the time Iraq was very, very interested in receiving an Israeli promise, or some Israeli guarantee, that we would not attack the pipeline through which the Iraqis were supposed to transfer oil to al-Aqabah port, which is within firing range of the Israeli border. They were very interested in getting such a promise. By the way, we never wanted war with Iraq and we are certainly prepared to provide such a promise to the Iraqis, because we really did not plan to hit any Iraqi oil pipelines there or anywhere else. Therefore, there is some element of truth around which ridiculous theories and lies have been added.

[Friedman] On the other hand, as ordinary citizens who do not belong to any intelligence community, Mubarak's remarks can be reassuring to us. If we are so well entrenched in the Iraqi army and if there are contacts between us and Baghdad then the threat of war declines.

[Ben-Elisar] I would suggest to the people of Israel—and they do it even without me because they are wise enough—not to depend on the report from Egypt about Israel's intelligence activity, and just to depend on the Israeli intelligence community.

Jordan Said Passing Reconnaissance Aid to Iraq

TA0410184190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Israel's director of Military Intelligence, Major General Amnon Shahaq, says Jordan is carrying out reconnaissance flights over its borders with Israel and Saudi Arabia and passing the information to Iraq. In an interview with the British weekly defense journal JANE'S, Shahaq said Baghdad's threats should be taken seriously. He added that he was confident Iraq is incapable of sustaining a prolonged war. This, he said, was due to Baghdad's shortage of replacement parts resulting from the UN embargo.

Iraq's Ramadan Meets With King Husayn

Relations Discussed

JN0410125290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1135 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Amman, 4 Oct (INA)—His Majesty King Husayn of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan received here today Mr. Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister.

During the meeting, Mr. Ramadan conveyed President Saddam Husayn's greetings to his brother King Husayn and stressed that the people and leadership of Iraq are proud of the strong relations with fraternal Jordan and that Iraq is sincerely eager for joint action to develop and promote these exemplary relations.

The first deputy prime minister referred to the situation in the Arabian Gulf and to Iraq's practical and serious steps to bring about full and comprehensive peace in the region. These steps have been seen in President Saddam Husayn's 12 August initiative and other peaceful measures, he said.

He stressed that Iraq adheres to its natural rights from Zakho [northernmost Iraqi town] to the sea. Iraq will not abandon these rights, and it is highly prepared to defend them through great sacrifices, he said.

Mr. Ramadan said the fact that the United States is imposing its hostile policy on the Security Council and issuing unfair and illegal resolutions to impose a blockade on 18 million Iraqis, in addition to its threats to use force, reveals the aggressive policy of the United States and its closure of all doors to all initiatives aimed at achieving peace in the region.

He praised the genuine pan-Arab position of fraternal Jordan, which in a cohesive spirit has joined the wide-scale uprising of the masses from the east to the west of the Arab world—an uprising that took the agents, plotters, and their masters by surprise.

His Majesty King Husayn conveyed through Mr. Ramadan his greetings to his brother President Saddam Husayn and the pride of the people and leadership of Jordan in their distinguished relations with Iraq. He stressed the importance of continued efforts to expand and promote these relations.

The Jordanian monarch said the Gulf crisis must be solved by peaceful means. He emphasized the need for continuing efforts to remove the specter of war and its disasters, which cannot be confined to a certain region. He stressed that Jordan will continue its efforts to create a positive and appropriate climate for peace in the region.

The meeting was attended on the Iraqi side by Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Nizar Hamdun and Iraqi Ambassador in Amman Nuri Isma'il al-Wayyis, and on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Mudar Badran,

Royal Court Chief al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, and the king's political adviser, 'Adnan Abu-'Awdah.

Meets Prime Minister Badran

JN0410192690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1815 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Amman, 4 Oct (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister, met with Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran here today.

During the meeting, they discussed fraternal bilateral ties and expressed satisfaction with their continuous enhancement. They also stressed the importance of redoubling efforts to explore new spheres of bilateral cooperation that will enhance and expand further these ties.

The two officials also touched on the developments in the Arabian Gulf region and the dangers posed by the presence of U.S. and Western troops in this region. They affirmed that military escalation and threats will complicate matters. They added that this will not create a positive atmosphere conducive to peace.

Taha Yasin Ramadan indicated that the force which the Americans and their allies are threatening to use will be crushed against Iraqi might.

On the Iraqi side, the meeting was attended by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Nizar Hamdun and Iraqi ambassador in Amman Nuri Isma'il al-Wayyis. For Jordan, it was attended by Ahmad al-Lawzi, president of the Senate; Sulayman 'Arar, speaker of the House of Representatives; Salim Masa'idah, deputy prime minister and interior minister; Ibrahim 'Izz-al-Din, information minister and acting foreign minister.

Holds News Conference

JN0410180990 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1610 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi Revolution Command [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister, held a news conference today in which he spoke about developments in the Gulf crisis. At the news conference he said that he handed a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to His Majesty King Husayn within the framework of consultations between the two fraternal countries. Ramadan explained that, while in Amman, he met with Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu, with whom he discussed Gulf developments. Ramadan said:

[Begin Ramadan recording] We thank all of you for responding to the invitation to the conference. I hope it will be an opportunity for you to get acquainted with facts and then to highlight them, including basically the latest developments of the situation in the Gulf region and the motives for our visit to fraternal Jordan. With your permission, I will not miss the opportunity to extend special thanks to the press and all honorable writers in this militant Arab country, the Hashemite

Kingdom of Jordan, for the distinguished national and pan-Arab role and the great mission they are undertaking at this particular stage, when souls are being tested before principles. From us and the Iraqi people they have every appreciation and respect. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Further on Conference

JN0410194590 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister, held a news conference in Amman today in which he spoke to the local, Arab, and foreign journalists and news agency correspondents about the latest developments in the Gulf crisis and the Iraqi viewpoint.

[Begin recording] [Ramadan] Our visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan falls within the framework of the nature of relations between the two fraternal countries and the joint discussions of the two countries' affairs and the region's events. On this matter, we conveyed a personal message from His Excellency President Saddam Husayn to his brother His Majesty King Husayn. Viewpoints between us are in agreement regarding the fact that we, along with other brothers, should intensify efforts to ripen the circumstances for a peaceful solution and an open dialogue on all problems of the region, including the problem which has been termed the Gulf problem. We agree with what has been said about international legitimacy, provided there is a clear linkage regarding all problems of the region, over which resolutions have been issued by the United Nations.

While here in Amman we had talks with the Japanese prime minister this morning. Each side explained its viewpoint regarding the events. It has been stressed that the avenue of dialogue and peaceful solutions must be emphasized. As you know, this is considered the first official meeting at this level between Iraq and Japan since 2 August. After the exchange of viewpoints, it was agreed that this dialogue and the exchange of opinions should continue.

[Rabab Mango, Jordanian paper AL-RA'Y] Mr. President [as heard], we noticed through the media that the Iraqi position on Mitterrand's initiative was one of welcome. However, at the same time statements coming from Baghdad today say that there will be no solution to the crisis unless the forces and the fleets withdraw from the Gulf. Does this conflict with one of the provisions that refers to simultaneous withdrawal?

[Ramadan] Our appreciation of the initiative—that is, what was mentioned in President Mitterrand's speech—stems first of all from the fact that it is the first initiative of this kind to be made by a European country as important as France. The second reason for our appreciation of this initiative is that we are confident that it was issued by a reliable source, or a source that believes in the need to seek a peaceful solution to this cause and

not just one that claims to be doing so. The third reason is that the initiative refers in one way or the other, even in a modest manner, to the other problems of the region. These include the Palestinian cause, the occupied Arab territories, Lebanon. Although the reference is not that clear, there is such a reference in the initiative. We also say that the French side cannot but have in mind the 12 August initiative by the Iraqi side. Thus, we find that this initiative, and this French beginning could be developed into a general framework that will come closer to the Iraqi initiative of 12 August, which calls for discussion of all the acute problems of the region in accordance with the same fair bases and conditions.

This is a small opening, which, while being modest, gives us hope, especially since it was issued by a country which, we believe, has done it with good intentions. This initiative can be developed. This does not mean the initiative is identical to our point of view.

Anyone who believes the presence of foreign forces in the Arab region will help find a solution through terrorism and pressure is mistaken. We know those who called for the presence of these forces with such speed intended to block the road to any dialogue or peaceful solution. This is because as Arabs and Iraqis, we reject any dialogue under the threat of guns.

[Salim Dhiyab, Jordan television] Mr. Deputy Prime Minister, does the continuation of dialogue with the Japanese side mean that there is an improvement in the position of both sides in terms of accepting each other's viewpoints? The other part of the question: What are the latest Arab efforts in the Arab arena or through coordination with international parties to find a peaceful solution to the Arab Gulf crisis?

[Ramadan] I spoke about this issue. I did not say viewpoints were identical. I said each side presented its viewpoint regarding the problem. However, we agreed that the best avenue is that of peace and dialogue, and continuation of this dialogue. This has been stressed. Bilaterally, we found that it is necessary to continue these meetings on any possible level in the next phase and in the same direction. As part of consultations, as you know, 10 days after the event, that is on 12 August, Iraq declared an international initiative calling for all problems or all UN Security Council resolutions issued unanimously on the withdrawal from Palestine, the Arab land, and Lebanon, and concerning Gulf issues to be put on one negotiating table. Any party that does not abide by any resolution issued on any one of these issues must be subjected to the same sanctions that have been imposed on Iraq. We did not say that all the articles of the 12 August initiative must be approved by others. However, it reflects our viewpoint and we are ready for any amendment or additions that could make this plan or initiative acceptable to the concerned sides in a manner that achieves justice.

UN Security Council resolutions have been issued for 43 years concerning Arab rights to territories occupied by

Israel. However, the United States, which supports Israel, is now calling for legitimacy. However, we have seen no results or measures. How would you have Arabs and Muslims believe that the United States and its supporters defend legitimacy, while holy Jerusalem and Palestine have been usurped for 43 years without any call for implementing legitimacy? The only reason is that the United States has desire and ambitions in dominating oil sources. However, from now on, we in Iraq, the Arab people in general, and the good leaders in this homeland cannot accept that Arab wealth be for non-Arabs.

[Unidentified reporter] Your Excellency, during the past 24 hours there has been a great deal of talk about the issue. There have been envoys from the Soviet Union as well as your excellency. The first part of the question: Do you believe there is reason for optimism about the events? The second part of the question: Your excellency said the French initiative contains some hope. How can an initiative that calls for an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait be a source of hope for you?

[Ramadan] We consider the mere recognition of the principle that a peaceful approach and dialogue must have a chance and be given priority and the linkage between the region's issues, irrespective of any differences in details, a good initiative, and the beginning of hope that could be developed. We are confident that if the U.S. hegemony is lifted, or at least alleviated, the desire for a peaceful solution will develop in many states, including the West European states. This is because any solution through war will not be in the interest of any world state, including the West European states. In fact, they will be the parties most harmed by war. The only beneficiary, if there is any benefit, will effectively be the United States. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi RCC member and first deputy prime minister, left Amman, concluding a two-day working visit to Jordan. He was seen off at the airport by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, the deputy prime minister and interior minister, ministers, senior civilian and military officials, and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman and embassy staff.

Discusses Withdrawal

JN0410221490 Amman Jordan Television Network
in English 2010 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Excerpts] [Announcer] His Majesty King Husayn discussed the latest developments in the Gulf with visiting [Iraqi] First Deputy Premier Taha Yasin Ramadan. They also reviewed current contacts to reach a political settlement to the crisis. Senior Jordanian and Iraqi officials attended the meeting.

Following his talks in Amman, Ramadan addressed a news conference in which he tackled the French initiative, his talks with Kaifu, and Iraq's takeover of Kuwait. [passage omitted]

If the same conditions were put on Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories and Gaza Strip, then would Iraq agree to withdraw from Kuwait? Mr. Taha Ramadan's answer to this question was:

[Begin recording] [Ramadan's interpreter] Should the same conditions for withdrawal from Arab occupied territories be laid upon us, we accept it, and if it does not exist, we are prepared to sit down and discuss all other issues including Palestine, Lebanon, and the Gulf, and the results of the dialogue, whether withdrawal or not should be implemented. [end recording]

[Announcer] Ramadan questioned conditions imposed by the United States on Iraq while similar conditions were not imposed on Israel.

[Begin recording] [Ramadan's interpreter] Should there be an initiative from another party for Iraq to withdraw from its own land in Kuwait, we also say that Israel should withdraw from all Arab lands before opening dialogue. Is this just? Or is it that Israel and America have a distinguished place in the world that is of their own and we as Arabs come from another level? Should this condition not be accepted, it is only natural that we also do not accept, despite the difference in the two incidents for Kuwait is a part of Iraq and it is an Arab land. Should some Arab people wish to say that it is not Iraqi, it still remains an Arab land, and those who live in Kuwait are Arabs. But people and outsiders came, and outsiders from this nation, they came and occupied an Arab land, and in spite of that they say that Iraq should withdraw from Kuwait to defend legitimacy. [sentence as heard] [end recording]

Rejects Preconditions

JN0510092490 Amman AL-RAY in Arabic
5 Oct 90 pp 1, 15

[By Rabab Mango]

[Excerpts] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister has said that he carried a personal message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to His Majesty King Husayn dealing with the need to intensify the efforts being made to find a peaceful solution to all the region's problems, including the Gulf crisis.

At a press conference held in Amman last night following talks at the Royal Hashemite Court with His Majesty King Husayn and Jordanian officials as well as Japanese officials under Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Ramadan said there is an agreement between the Jordanian and Iraqi sides on the need to develop the circumstances for a peaceful solution. [passage omitted]

Responding to a question on the recent U.S. attempts within the United Nations to get it to approve a U.S. aggression against Iraq, Ramadan said that it is shameful for a state that has huge power to request the help of other states. He said: The Iraqis are in their country and

they did not attack a U.S. state. We have great confidence in the Iraqis and all sons of the Arab nation. The region will be a graveyard for all invaders because the time when the U.S.-backed Zionist terrorism was a sword over the necks of this nation has gone. [passage omitted]

He added: The time when the Zionist terrorism and tyranny forced the Arab rulers to bow, stole their resources, and harmed their sovereignty is over. The land is Arab. The oil wells and holy places are not Western and not in their territory nor do they belong to them. Regardless of their capabilities, their defeat will not be forgotten over the years.

Regarding the recent Jordanian-Moroccan-Algerian initiative based on the principle of accepting withdrawal from Kuwait, Ramadan said: Iraq does not accept any initiative with preconditions. It rejects any solution within an international framework that is not part of a solution to other Arab problems, headed by the Palestine question. We have affirmed through tangible evidence that Kuwait is an indivisible part of Iraq.

Responding to a question on whether Iraq will withdraw from Kuwait as soon as Israel withdraws from the occupied Arab territories, Ramadan said: If the same condition is imposed on the Israeli side; that is, withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, and if the concerned parties sit at one table to discuss all issues—Palestine, Lebanon, and the Gulf—the outcome of the discussions will decide whether there will be a withdrawal or not.

Ramadan explained that the release of some foreign nationals held in Kuwait is aimed at giving peace a chance.

On the other hand, he denied that Iraq had set up a torture center for Kuwaitis and referred to the need to pay attention to the children, women, and tens of thousands of Arabs who are being slain in the occupied Arab territories.

[In a similar report carried by Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic on 5 October on pages 1 and 15, Ramadan is quoted as saying that his country "is prepared for negotiations on Kuwait Governorate if this is linked to a discussion of all Middle East issues, but it is impossible for Iraq to accept dialogue based on withdrawal from Kuwait only." Ramadan is quoted elsewhere in the report as saying: "Our right will not change within the Arab family. We prefer war to capitulation. All our masses reject capitulation. This is proved by the stands of all the Arab peoples without exception."]

Japanese Spokesman Reports Kaifu, Ramadan Talks

Japan Demands Withdrawal

JN0410130590 Amman Domestic Service in English
1200 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan said today his country is serious about solving

the Gulf crisis through peaceful means and is ready for political dialogue. During a meeting in Amman with visiting Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Mr. Ramadan pointed to Iraq's rejection of any Arab or international dialogue as long as foreign troops are present on Arab soil. He underlined that foreign military buildup, the message of threats, and the quick decisions of the United Nations Security Council blocked the road towards achieving a peaceful solution.

The Iraqi deputy premier said: President Saddam Husayn has drawn the attention that international legislation should apply to all issues in the region. He added that the United States is only concerned in achieving its own interests.

For his part, the Japanese premier said Iraq's (?stress) not to start a war in the area helps create a positive atmosphere for a peaceful settlement. Mr. Kaifu's official spokesman made the following briefing:

[Begin spokesman's recording] Today, I am going to brief you on the meeting that took place at his royal highness the crown prince's office between Prime Minister Kaifu of Japan and Mr. Ramadan. At the outset of the meeting, Mr. Kaifu stated the basic Japanese position; namely, that we, Japan, do not accept the armed invasion and the subsequent annexation of Kuwait, as well as the act of detaining foreigners in Iraq and Kuwait. He went on to say that we, therefore, call up on Iraq to do the following:

One, that Iraq withdraw its forces from Kuwait. Second, Iraq restore the legitimate government of Kuwait. And, thirdly, Iraq ensure the freedom of all foreigners now stranded in Iraq and Kuwait to leave those countries. Only when Iraq makes those (?and above) decisions, a fruitful and constructive negotiations for peace will follow.

Mr. Ramadan acknowledged there exist rather wide differences of views between the two countries; but, nonetheless, expressed his appreciation for the fact that Mr. Kaifu is ready to continue our political dialogue. [end recording]

Talks on Crisis Unsuccessful

OW0410153990 Tokyo KYODO in English
1457 GMT 04 Oct 90

[Text] Amman, Oct. 4 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan made no headway Thursday toward solving the crisis in the Persian Gulf, but agreed to keep bilateral talks open, Japanese officials said. In separate meetings, Kaifu called on Jordanian leaders to strictly abide by United Nations economic sanctions against Iraq.

Kaifu was here for two days to seek a solution to the crisis stemming from the August 2 Iraqi invasion and offered Jordan 250 million dollars in economic assistance. In the first high-level talks between a major

industrial power and the Iraqi leadership since the Iraqi military invasion, Kaifu asked Ramadan that Iraq withdraw its forces from its oil-rich neighbor Kuwait, restore the legitimate Kuwaiti Government, and release the Japanese and other foreigners being detained by Iraq.

But Ramadan, the No. 2 in Iraqi leadership, responded to the requests by saying that Kuwait is traditionally part of Iraqi territory and that the foreigners are "guests" of his country, the officials said. Both sides stuck to their own positions during the meeting at the Royal Palace which lasted about two hours, twice as long as scheduled, the officials briefing reporters said.

Kaifu, who is on a five-nation tour of the Middle East, arrived here on Wednesday from Egypt. He will also visit Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and Oman. Kaifu told Ramadan that, in the emerging new world order, the use of force to resolve international problems is unacceptable.

"If Iraq takes the resolve it will provide the opportunity to enter peaceful talks," he said in calling for the withdrawal of Baghdad's troops. Ramadan hailed a four-stage peace package made last week by French President Francois Mitterrand to the United Nations General Assembly.

Ramadan said Iraq wants to follow up the proposal as the beginning of a peaceful solution to the Persian Gulf crisis. The French proposal aims at solving not only the Gulf crisis but also other Middle East problems, including Palestinian demands for an independent state.

Ramadan warned that if the U.S. launched a war, the entire world would suffer. "There can be no political solution as long as non-Arab military intimidation persists," he said in an allusion to U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia. Ramadan said that in future meetings with Japan he hoped to be able to discuss food shortages and the resolution of the Palestinian issue. No date was set for further contacts, the Japanese officials said.

In separate meetings with Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Mudar Badran earlier in the day, Kaifu urged Jordan to strictly observe U.N. economic sanctions. King Husayn promised Kaifu he would back the U.N. resolution condemning Iraqi military action.

"Jordan's goal is to reach a peaceful solution, because once war break out, the impact will be immeasurable," Husayn was quoted as telling Kaifu. But he said the solution should "include the roots of the conflict." Husayn was believed to be referring to the economic disparities between Arab nations that have oil reserves and those that do not.

Kaifu offered Jordan 250 million dollars in loans, including 100 million dollars in emergency commodity loans, to help alleviate Jordan's economic difficulties stemming from the Gulf crisis. Badran said Jordan has suffered substantial losses due to the crisis. He cited an International Monetary Fund estimate that its economy could suffer a 1.1 billion dollar loss in 1990 due to the

sanctions, rising to 2.5 billion dollars next year. In Egypt, Japan offered 400 million dollars in economic assistance.

King Husayn Meets Prime Minister Kaifu 4 Oct

Discuss Crisis, Aid

OW0410131190 Tokyo KYODO in English
1256 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Amman, Oct. 4 KYODO—Jordan's King Husayn told Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu Thursday that a solution to the Gulf crisis must take into consideration the root cause of the hostilities, Japanese officials said. Husayn and Kaifu pledged in an hour-long meeting to back the United Nation's resolution condemning Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait, the officials said.

"Jordan's goal is to reach a peaceful solution, because once war breaks out, the impact will be immeasurable," Husayn was quoted as telling Kaifu in the meeting at the royal palace. But he said the solution should "include the roots of the conflict."

Husayn was believed to be referring to the economic disparities between Arab nations that have oil reserves and those that do not. On Wednesday Crown Prince Hassan proposed in a meeting with Kaifu the establishment of a regional fund to help distribute oil wealth.

Husayn welcomed Kaifu's contribution of 100 million dollars in emergency commodity loans to compensate Jordan for losses suffered due to U.N. sanctions against Iraq. Japan also made available 150 million dollars in loans to help finance a World Bank-backed project.

But while condemning the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, Jordan has been reluctant to fully enforce sanctions, analysts said. Prior to the outbreak of hostilities Jordan conducted 40 percent of its international trade with Iraq. Kaifu attended a luncheon hosted by Husayn and was set to leave for Ankara later in the day. Turkey is the third stop in a five-nation Middle East tour through October 8.

Further on Meeting

JN0410181790 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] The Jordanian side under His Majesty King Husayn and the Japanese side under Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu held a round of talks at the Royal Hashemite Court today. The two delegations reviewed the Gulf crisis and its developments, as well as the deep-rooted relations between the two friendly countries.

His Majesty King Husayn stressed that Jordan continues to take the same position as before the crisis. This position, he noted, calls for a political solution to spare the region all the dangers resulting from a resort to force. His majesty praised Japan's mounting interest in the Gulf crisis and the Japanese Government's eagerness for a peaceful settlement of the crisis.

His Majesty King Husayn expressed in his name and on behalf of the Jordanian people profound appreciation for Jordanian-Japanese relations and their progress in various fields, and referred to Japan's continued support for Jordan.

The Japanese prime minister explained his government's position on the Gulf crisis. He praised his majesty's efforts to reach a political settlement, indicating that this is the objective Japan is seeking and anticipating as well. The Japanese prime minister also expressed his understanding of Jordan's economic position and the difficulties it is encountering. He affirmed Japan's interest in supporting Jordan and extending every possible aid to its economic projects.

The talks were attended on the Jordanian side by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, his majesty the king's political adviser, and the ministers of information, finance, and industry and trade.

They were attended on the Japanese side by Hisashi Owada, deputy foreign minister; Makoto Watanabi, director of the Middle East Department; the Japanese ambassador in Amman; Shoshi Kuwata, director general of the economic cooperation office at the Foreign Ministry; and Shin Yabahaya, director of the First Middle East Department. [names and titles as heard]

His majesty hosted a luncheon banquet in honor of the Japanese prime minister at the al-Nadwah Palace, which was attended by members of the two delegations.

Loans Detailed

JN0410172290 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Amman, 4 Oct (PETRA)—Japan has decided to extend a \$100 million easy-terms loan to Jordan at an interest rate of 1 percent. Takanaka [name as received], official spokesman for the Japanese prime minister, told a press conference this afternoon that this loan will be repaid within 30 years, with a 10-year grace period.

He added that it has also been decided to extend another loan to Jordan worth \$150 million within the framework of bilateral economic cooperation. He explained that the terms of this loan will be agreed upon later by the Jordanian and Japanese Governments. He said these two loans will be made to Jordan as soon as possible, and as soon as related formalities are completed. He indicated that Japan may extend other loans to the states hit by the Gulf crisis in light of developments in the region. [passage omitted]

Kaifu To Aid Gulf States

JN0410132890 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Excerpts] The Jordanian capital, Amman, has witnessed intensive Arab and international diplomatic activity

during the past 24 hours as part of efforts to defuse the war situation and reach a peaceful settlement of the Gulf crisis. [passage omitted]

Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu met this afternoon with His Majesty King Husayn. He held talks yesterday with Crown Prince Hasan and Prime Minister Mudar Badran on the Gulf crisis and its negative repercussions on the Jordanian economy. Informed sources said Tokyo will extend to Amman urgent food supplies, in addition to easy loans worth \$250 million.

A Japanese source added that his country is committed to helping Jordan, Egypt, and Turkey, because these are the countries most harmed by the Gulf crisis. However, Japan does not want others to dictate to it how it should extend this aid.

Kaifu Visits Refugee Camp

OW0510003490 Tokyo KYODO in English
2300 GMT 4 Oct 90

[By Jocelyn Ford]

[Text] Amman, Oct. 4 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu made a brief visit to a refugee camp in Jordan on Thursday housing South Asians fleeing from Iraq and Kuwait. Kaifu spent 10 minutes walking through the dusty grounds of St. Andrew's Camp, a 400-tent community wedged between two highways some 30 kilometers south of Amman.

Japan has pledged 22 million dollars to support the refugee operations, and has helped provide transport for some of the tens of thousands of Asian refugees. The tour of the camp was curtailed because Kaifu's talks with Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan at the Royal Palace in Amman lasted nearly an hour over the allotted time.

Kaifu urged that Iraq withdraw from Kuwait, which it invaded on August 2, restore the legitimate Kuwaiti Government, and allow Japanese and other detained foreigners to leave. Japanese officials said the meeting made little headway toward resolving the Gulf crisis, however. Kaifu, on a five-nation tour of the region, later visited the refugee camp, where his arrival caused bewilderment among some of the refugees, who mistook him for local royalty.

One Sri Lankan cook who arrived from Kuwait the previous day said he thought the VIP surrounded by heavily armed guards was King Husayn. Informed that it was the prime minister of Japan, B.J. Dencil said he hoped the visit would expedite his trip home. Asura, a 30-year-old Sri Lankan woman who shook hands with Kaifu, said she had a good impression of the Japanese premier because he would "bring money."

St. Andrew's Camp is a temporary stopover for thousands of South Asian refugees, who stay there one or two nights prior to flying for home. It has a turnover of around 3,000 people each day. An aide to the prime

minister said the inspection was motivated by humanitarian concerns. Kaifu later left for Turkey. He will also visit Saudi Arabia and Oman before returning home on October 9.

Leaves for Turkey

OW0410155690 Tokyo KYODO in English
1505 GMT 04 Oct 90

[Text] Amman, Oct. 4 Kyodo—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu left Amman for Turkey Thursday after winding up a two-day trip to Jordan and a meeting here with Iraq's first deputy prime minister to discuss how to solve the Gulf crisis. In talks with Iraqi First Deputy Foreign Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, Kaifu failed to narrow gaps on the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait, Japanese officials said. He had no reply from Ramadan to his request for the release of Japanese and other foreigners detained by Iraq.

Ramadan repeated that Kuwait is part of Iraqi territory, they said. Kaifu urged Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Mudar Badran that Jordan strictly observe United Nations' resolutions calling for economic sanctions against Iraq. He also met King Husayn. Kaifu offered Jordan 250 million dollars in loans to help alleviate the effects on its economy of the Gulf crisis.

Badran Reviews Visit, Economy

JN0410211590 Amman Jordan Television Network
in Arabic 1800 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] The Japanese prime minister left Amman this evening following a two-day visit, during which he met with His Majesty King Husayn and Prime Minister Mudar Badran and held talks with them on the Gulf crisis and Jordanian-Japanese ties.

On hand to see Kaifu off were Prime Minister Mudar Badran, the deputy prime minister and interior minister, cabinet ministers, and a few senior civic and military officials, as well as the Japanese ambassador in Amman.

Following the departure of the Japanese guest, Prime Minister Mudar Badran said:

[Begin recording] [Badran] The Japanese prime minister began a visit to Jordan yesterday. A short while ago, he left. Extensive talks were held between the Jordanian and Japanese delegations yesterday and also between his highness the crown prince and the Japanese prime minister. Today, the talks were completed. A meeting was also held between His Majesty King Husayn and the Japanese prime minister and the delegation accompanying him. These talks focused on the Gulf crisis. Besides, we presented a full review of Jordan's economic needs and of the volume of the harm that has been inflicted on various sectors in Jordan as a result of the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 661. The prime minister informed us yesterday that the Japanese Government has decided to aid Jordan with an amount totaling \$100 million in the form of a loan to be

repaid over 30 years with a low interest rate of 1 percent and a 10-year grace period. The Japanese Government also decided to lend Jordan \$150 million, \$75 million of which will have a low interest rate, while the remaining \$75 million will be granted by the Export-Import Bank of Japan with medium interest. The prime minister today visited the evacuee camps. He also informed us that the Japanese Government donated \$18 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency to aid these evacuees. Likewise, the Japanese Government has decided to allocate some flights to these evacuees to expedite their evacuation from Jordan. Thanks.

[Reporter] Sir, is this aid commensurate with the grave economic harm inflicted on Jordan as a result of the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions?

[Badran] This aid was provided by only Japan. As for the volume of the harm that Jordan incurred as assessed by the IMF and relayed to the United Nations, it amounts to \$1.1 billion for the year 1990 and \$2.5 billion for the year 1991. Japan's contributions will not compensate us for all the losses that we have sustained. It is a mere part of Jordan's contributions.

[Reporter] How would you assess the reactions of world states regarding aid to Jordan to enable it to implement the UN resolution on economic sanctions?

[Badran] We have said and have told the UN Security Council president on 20 August 1990 that Jordan is committed to implementing UN Security Council Resolution 661 on the sanctions. Jordan has implemented this resolution well. This is well known to all Jordanians. The number of ships arriving in and departing the port of al-'Aqabah has been considerably reduced. No more than one or two ships are handled in this port per day, as you are well aware. In the past, this port used to be full of ships. Furthermore, the land transport fleet consisting of 12,000 trucks has ceased work. Our statistics show that the number of families harmed in the transport sector total 55,000. Right now, these have no income. This resolution stipulates that the United Nations, as interpreted by the IMF, should make up for the harm that Jordan incurred as a result of its implementation of this resolution. This is enshrined in Article 50 of the UN Charter.

[Reporter] Harm is being inflicted on Jordan, and particularly Jordanian trucking, by Arab states, specifically Saudi Arabia. What is the situation right now? And what about the oil situation after the Saudi decision to cut off its oil supplies to Jordan?

[Badran] As a matter of fact, I touched on the issue pertaining to transport activities in the port of al-'Aqabah, and on land transportation activities. However, the economic hardships caused are very extensive. We summarized it to the UN Security Council in brief paragraphs that cover more than four full pages. These hardships include the damage to Jordanian industries. It is well known that forty percent of our industrial exports go to Iraq.

Likewise, there are many adverse consequences that Jordan has suffered concerning expatriate remittances and the return of these expatriates. It is well known that some 26,000 new expatriate students have so far been enrolled at government schools, not to mention those enrolled at privately owned schools. These students came to Jordan only two months ago. This means that more than 100,000 expatriates have returned from Kuwait alone. This is a burden Jordan and the Jordanian people are bearing with all firmness. However, as I said, the terms for enforcing the sanctions stipulate that the country that implements these sanctions should obtain damages for the adverse consequences resulting from the sanctions. This is what we have been stressing.

As for the issue pertaining to transportation activities between us and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, they were halted for two days. Afterward, diplomatic contacts involving Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and Syria were held. I personally spoke with my colleague [Syrian Prime Minister] His Excellency Mr. Mahmud al-Zu'bi and urged him to take steps, because these adverse consequences affect the transit and transport activities originating in Syria, Turkey, or Europe and heading to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf. The trucks en route to the Gulf states have been released, as we are well aware. We have continued to make quiet, diplomatic efforts to resolve this issue.

With regard to the decision to cut off oil supplies to Jordan, you are well aware that we were asked to repay amounts of money payable in 1985—amounts that the custodian of the two holy mosques told me Jordan would be exempted from paying. We sent the new amounts required, amounts in the vicinity of \$5 million to the company involved. I instructed the finance minister to pay these amounts to the Trans-Arabian Pipeline [TAPLINE] Company. This amount was sent to the company. I believe that the company has received this amount. We sent a letter saying that the urgent amounts were enclosed. As for the amounts payable in the year 1985, we told the company that it can calculate interest on this amount until this issue is resolved. We requested that this pipeline be reopened because this is a matter that concerns the Jordanian people, Jordan's steadfastness, and the Jordanian Army.

[Reporter] What was the response of the TAPLINE Company?

[Badran] We do not know right now.

[Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, you discussed an alternative source of oil, involving cooperation with other countries. Has there been any agreement concluded pending a resumption of oil supplies by Saudi Arabia?

[Badran] No agreements have been made with any other countries. However, contacts have continued with several world oil companies to enable Jordan to import oil from some of these countries. We are awaiting price lists and methods of shipment. We will discuss these issues as well as the problems regarding this issue. We will consider what will suit us.

[Reporter] How long will the oil we have meet our needs?

[Badran] We have oil supplies that will meet our requirements for three days only. [Laughter] Pardon me, what oil are you talking about?

[Reporter] Oil reserves.

[Badran] As for our oil reserves, they are sufficient. I thought you were referring to the oil we extract from our oil fields. We drill 167,000 barrels of oil per year in our oilfields in al-Azraq. This is enough for two and a half days. As for our oil reserves, our plans have long taken into account the availability of oil reserves in Jordan. This also applies to food and supply stockpiles. We have these reserves all the time. Right now, the reserves are good. We are using some of these reserves until this problem is resolved, but we have very good reserves.

[Reporter] Are we contemplating any ideas regarding rationalizing energy consumption?

[Badran] Of course.

[Reporter] When will this start?

[Badran] Within two days we might start some measures to rationalize the consumption of energy.

[Reporter] Would you give us a clear idea on these measures?

[Badran] Ideas in this regard are still under consideration. As a matter of fact, some of the points still under consideration will be discussed by the brother ministers. We will announce them in due course.

[Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, do you see a way out of the Gulf crisis any time soon in light of recent political moves, and how do you assess recent initiatives, particularly President Mitterand's?

[Badran] In actual fact, no one can specify a date for an imminent breakthrough in the crisis. However, led by its leader, His Majesty King Husayn, Jordan is making a sustained effort in the interest of a peaceful, political solution to the Gulf crisis, since the military option will prove a major disaster, not only for the nations of the region, but for the whole world. Since the theater of the war will be over a sea of oil and over the oil wells, the outcome would be a catastrophe for the world. Hence the determination to find a political solution.

Amman at this time is receiving prominent figures from all corners of the world, and this is a positive aspect we have not missed, right from the start of the crisis. We have complied with UN Security Council resolutions, but we have never taken any extreme position. This is because we know that Jordan can play a positive role in working out a peaceful solution. The arrivals [from Iraq and Kuwait] are in the hundreds of thousands. Today they passed the 700,000 mark; two days back, the figure was 650,000. Around 700,000 people have transited Jordan. Jordan has extended to them humanitarian assistance. Likewise,

Amman has become a key stopover for all world politicians exploring a solution to the issue. A couple of days ago, or rather, yesterday, Soviet President Gorbachev's special envoy was here and then proceeded to Baghdad. his majesty the king and the Soviet envoy spoke at length about a peaceful solution. Yasir 'Arafat has traveled to Baghdad from Amman. I can also cite the meeting between the Japanese prime minister and Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan. This morning's session lasted two hours. Iraq's argument is that similar issues should not be approached with double or even triple standards. This is the point at issue. If the world, if the United States is interested in finding a solution, it must make up its mind.

[Reporter] Then how do you assess Bush's address in which he implied that there may be breakthroughs in other issues if President Saddam Husayn declared an intention to....

[Badran, interrupting] I think it's positive. On that score, I think it's positive. You've asked me about Mitterrand's initiative. Likewise, Mitterrand's UN address is clearer in this respect. We are waiting to see how France's position will crystallize over the next two days...

[Reporter, interrupting] So that Jordan will initiate contacts with France and Iraq?

[Badran] No, right now Jordan is not doing that. These principles were raised by President Mitterrand when the French leader conferred with his majesty during his French visit.

[Reporter] A tripartite summit was convened in Rabat. It was said that an Iraqi response was being awaited before an initiative or contacts could be made with other Arab states. Is any Iraqi response forthcoming, and if so, what is it?

[Badran] The Iraqi answer is the scenario I have already outlined to you, and that is a resolution of all the issues...

[Reporter, interrupting] By linkage?

[Badran] Linkage between all issues. That is the answer, yes.

[Reporter] So this was the response to the initiative of his majesty the king?

[Badran] There was no initiative, strictly speaking, from His Majesty King Husayn, on the issue. However, the three-way meeting produced a letter, and the answer was what I have described.

'Arafat, USSR's Primakov Discuss Gulf Crisis

JN0410130990 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1220 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] The PALESTINE NEWS AGENCY, Wafa, has said that Mr. Primakov handed a message to 'Arafat from President Gorbachev that explains efforts undertaken by Gorbachev at the Helsinki summit to prevent the outbreak of a devastating war in the region. Wafa

added that, during the 2-hour meeting, Primakov and 'Arafat discussed developments in the Gulf crisis and all other issues in the region. The Soviet delegation appreciated Mr. 'Arafat's efforts to resolve the Gulf crisis peacefully. The head of the Soviet delegation said that the Soviet Union is opposed to the military solution, but supports a speedy peaceful solution that guarantees everybody's rights and interests.

Wafa added, moreover, that the Palestinian president briefed the Soviet delegation on some ideas currently being discussed to reach an Arab and international solution to the crisis, primarily the need to link the Gulf crisis and other Mideast problems, foremost of which is the Palestine question.

Wafa noted that the idea of linking the problems of the region has received wide approval in many international quarters. In this regard, Wafa cited French President Francois Mitterrand's initiative, the recent Euro-Soviet statement, and even U.S. President George Bush's statement at the United Nations last Monday.

It added that the two sides agreed to continue contacts and to exert every possible efforts to prevent a flare-up in the Gulf. A Palestinian source said that, for his part, Primakov expressed the USSR's opposition to the military solution to settle the Gulf crisis, and affirmed the need to expedite efforts aimed at reaching a negotiated solution. Mr. 'Arafat arrived in Amman yesterday evening and left at dawn today for Baghdad.

U.S. Embassy Denies U.S. Soldiers Killed

JN0510092990 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
5 Oct 90 p 16

[Text] Amman—AL-DUSTUR—U.S. embassy sources in Amman have denied that four U.S. soldiers were killed in a quarrel with Egyptian soldiers at a crossroad between Riyadh and Hafr al-Batin in Saudi Arabia, as reported by some people arriving from Saudi Arabia. The sources explained that they had received a denial to this effect from the U.S. forces command in Saudi Arabia.

***Tribal Shaykh Voices Support for Saudi Arabia**

91p40009 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic
27 Sep 90 p 6

[Text] Amman—Shaykh 'Ali 'Uwaymir, paramount shaykh of the al-Ma'ayitah tribe, stated that the positions taken by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia toward Jordan have been special and absolutely invaluable, pointing out that, for decades, the Saudi people have not let down their Jordanian brothers. "Therefore, we shall not withhold our help and support from them, especially at this stage."

Through AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, he called on Arab leaders to exert their utmost effort to deal with the Gulf crisis.

He said, "We are ready to offer our insignificant lives in sacrifice to Saudi Arabia, which has offered us much and which has supported us in Jordan for decades past."

The paramount shaykh of the al-Ma'ayitah disapproved of how a Muslim Arab could engage in making helpless Muslim Arab women, children, and old men homeless.

From another quarter, 'Akif al-Ma'ayitah said, "Reports that Saddam Husayn intended to burn half of Israel if it attacked an Arab state were a source of pride to the Arab nation and the Islamic community." He called attention

to the high spirit of self-assertion that won his sympathies (i.e., Mr. al-Ma'ayitah) when he heard of this challenge to Israel, which has plundered Muslim Arab holy places and land. However, and unfortunately, Iraq's occupation of Kuwait came as a surprise that startled and distressed him, as well as many others.

He said: The Gulf states, headed by Saudi Arabia, did not let Iraq down in its war with Iran, even after the war ended, especially since they had employed all of their energies and capabilities to serve Iraq so it could win a victory. I wonder what happened!?

Army Command To Keep Crossings Closed

NC0410154090 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] The Army Command has declared that the crossing points in northern al-Matn will remain closed to citizens.

In a statement today, the Army Command said: At a time when the Army Command was preparing to order the reopening of the crossing points in northern al-Matn, a new call was made today for staging demonstrations in the direction of these crossing points. This prompted the Army Command to keep these crossing points closed with barriers and mines in order to avert incidents and bloodshed, and to safeguard the citizens.

The command reaffirmed its decision to reopen these crossing points as soon as the demonstrations near these points cease.

Continuing Blockade Foreseen

NC0510065590 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] The decision to continue the blockade [of areas under General 'Awn's control] will not be retracted. However, the blockade will not continue for long, because events are moving toward a swift military operation for which everything necessary to guarantee its success is being prepared. It has been reported in this respect that presidential adviser Faris Buwayz visited Damascus in the past few hours and met with [Syrian Chief of Staff] Brigadier General Hikmat al-Shihabi. Buwayz then went to 'Anjar where he met Brig. Gen. Ghazi Kan'an [chief of Syrian intelligence in Lebanon].

It has been reported that the discussions during these meetings dealt with the new developments in the Lebanese arena and the ongoing preparations to end the rebellion.

'Awn's Counterproposal

NC0510115490 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] The Army Command has declared that it will reopen the crossing points as soon as the demonstrations cease. Meanwhile, 'Awn's central coordination bureau has announced its readiness to halt demonstrations if General Lahhud's command issues a decision to open all crossing points and end the blockade completely.

It is worth noting that the central coordination bureau called for a new demonstration to be staged at the Monte Verde crossing point at 1600 today.

Papal Nuncio Advised Against Attending Funeral

NC0410153690 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Well-informed political sources have revealed that Papal Nuncio Pablo Puente, who has declared his intention to participate in the mass funeral for the victims of the Nahr

al-Mawt massacre, has been advised by high-ranking official sources not to attend the funeral. These sources have information that the papal nuncio could be detained by the demonstrators and would not be released before the blockade on the two al-Matn areas is lifted.

The newspaper AL-DIYAR reports that a ministerial source has affirmed that the government will not block any initiative, provided it is based on achieving a solution without conditions and on handing over the legitimate institutions. Therefore, the government welcomes the papal nuncio's initiative if it is within this context. The source said that making this initiative conditional upon the lifting of the blockade is unacceptable.

'Awn Calls for Freezing Al-Ta'if Agreement

NC0510122790 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] According to press reports, former Army Commander General Michel 'Awn met with a personal envoy of Papal Nuncio Pablo Puente 24 hours ago and gave him his final response to the recent Vatican initiative. 'Awn's response was as follows:

We agree to join a national unity government on the basis of the following conditions:

1. That the implementation of the al-Ta'if agreement be halted.
2. That everything that has resulted from the al-Ta'if agreement be regarded as frozen.
3. That new parliamentary elections be called.

A presidential source has been cited as commenting on 'Awn's response by saying that 'Awn has successively done away with all Arab, French, and Vatican mediations. With his new stand on Papal Nuncio Puente's initiative, 'Awn is pushing the country toward an impasse and forcing the legitimate authority to make hard choices.

Meanwhile, AL-NAHAR cites an unidentified minister as having said: We decided on the blockade and we will continue with it until 'Awn falls and surrenders. The important thing is that we do not fall or be blockaded ourselves; we do not want to turn into a distressed nation.

The minister said: Stringent measures will be taken in the coming days. We will not start the military battle but as soon as 'Awn fires the first shot, we will respond. However, he noted, we are eager not to resort to or initiate this option.

'Awn Responds to U.S. Position on 'Massacre'

NC0410165390 (Clandestine) The Lebanese Radio
in Arabic 1100 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Commenting on the U.S. stand on the Nahr al-Mawt massacre, Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn said: We thank the United States for denouncing the

crime and the loss of innocent lives that resulted from it. We thank it for admitting that the Lebanese Forces' militia were the ones who opened fire on the demonstrators. We also thank it for affirming that the incident underlines the urgent need for reconciliation and for a comprehensive political solution to Lebanon's problem. This is a (?clear) indication that the al-Ta'if accord will not solve the Lebanese problem.

Gen. 'Awn added: The State Department spokesman, who called on Prime Minister Gen. 'Awn to recognize the legitimacy, forgot to refer to a premise, an address, or a single area [words indistinct] where the so-called legitimate (?government) has imposed its authority, applied Lebanese laws, and declared human rights in it [words indistinct]. The spokesman also forgot the responsibility of this impotent legitimacy, which they are calling on us to hand over to it the fate of our people, for becoming a cover for firing on this people or for [word indistinct].

Junblatt Comments on Nahr Al-Mawt Incident

NC0510135890 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Commenting on the Nahr al-Mawt incident, Minister Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, said today: The Nahr al-Mawt massacre was a horrible crime committed against the Lebanese people. But the bigger crime was the government's statement in which it tried to conceal the perpetrators of the crime. All this is taking place as part of the growing bias of some ministers, media and political presidential advisers, and security officials who receive their instructions and salaries from the French Embassy.

Junblatt added: I am not saying this in order to foil the so-called al-Ta'if settlement. We have had enough slander from some of those who claim to have a sense of honor. But it is unthinkable for matters to continue in this way. If there is one thing that must be done, it is to correct the moral and political crookedness within the government so we can have credibility before the entire people.

French Ambassador Proposes End to Blockade

NC0410165090 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Official and popular circles have expressed surprise at the behavior of French Ambassador to Lebanon Rene Ala—behavior which runs counter to his diplomatic status. The circles said that Ala's political behavior reflects support for mutinous officer Michel 'Awn. The same circles ask if Ambassador Ala has appointed himself as envoy to Lebanon from some other French government.

Citing political sources in Beirut, REUTER reported that the Lebanese government has turned down a proposal submitted by Ambassador Ala. The French ambassador's proposal provides for freezing the al-Ta'if accord and lifting the blockade imposed on the General Michel 'Awn-held

area. The sources consider the ambassador's proposal as French interference in Lebanese national affairs.

Paris Unaware of Contacts

NC0410172990 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Francois Scheer, the French Foreign Ministry secretary general, has denied that his government is aware of the military meetings that the French military attache in Lebanon is holding with some of General 'Awn's officers or the contacts conducted by French Ambassador Rene Ala in East Beirut.

The denial was included in a telegram that President Ilyas al-Hirawi received from Lebanese Ambassador to France Johnny 'Abdu. 'Abdu briefed the president on his meeting with Scheer and said that the French official emphasized continuing French support for the legitimate government and the al-Ta'if agreement. He reported that Scheer explained that Paris has opposed a military action out of its concern to avoid any bloodshed. He added, however, that France however supports any measure the legitimate government might take to establish its authority and take over B'abda from Gen. 'Awn.

Ala Denies Tension

NC0510121190 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] French Ambassador Rene Ala has denied that relations between the legitimate Lebanese government and France are experiencing tension.

In an interview with AL-HAYAH newspaper, the French ambassador said Lebanon shows great interest in the French role and that President Ilyas al-Hirawi is closely following the stances Ala conveys on behalf of his government.

Replying to a question, Ambassador Ala said he will return to Beirut within the next few days. He pointed out that his departure had been for personal reasons. He asserted that he has no differences with anyone in Lebanon.

The French ambassador denied the existence of any problem concerning French entry visas to Lebanese. He explained that he had only told the president of the republic that the closure of crossing points was bound to delay the transfer of visa files between the two sectors of Beirut. He asserted that this matter has nothing to do with reports about the rumored tension in relations.

Tehran on Hezbollah, Tawhid Opposition to U.S.

LD0410124590 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Special ceremonies were held in the al-Nabi Skit village mosque near Ba'labakk last night to mark unity week. According to a Central News Unit report from Beirut, in these ceremonies Sayyid Husayn al-Musavi, head of Lebanon's Islamic Amal Movement, stressed the

need for greater unity in the ranks of world Muslims, and particularly the Muslims of Lebanon, to combat the conspiracies of Zionism and global arrogance.

In another development, at a ceremony held by the revolutionary movement of Lebanon's Hezbollah on the same occasion in the city of Ba'labakk last night, the participants, by chanting revolutionary slogans, asked for the unity of all Muslims to confront the presence of the U.S. forces in the region.

Other reports received indicate that Tawhid [Islamic Unification Movement], in a statement issued this morning to mark Unity Week and the birthday of the Noble Prophet, may God's peace and salutations be upon him and his scion, called upon all Muslims of the world to unite for a struggle against the dispatch of U.S. forces and its allies to the Islamic land. This statement adds: The Muslim nations, by following the path of Imam Khomeyni, may his dust be sanctified, can foil all conspiracies of Zionism and global arrogance.

Fatah Releases Four Lebanese Detainees

NC0410154290 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Today the Fatah Central Committee released four Lebanese from Ba'labakk who were affiliated with the Fatah Revolutionary Council. The released Lebanese are Usamah Talib Salih, 'Abdallah Muhammad Bayan, As'ad Khudr Ramadan, and a person called Abu-Diyab. They were released for humanitarian and psychological reasons as Zayd Wahbah, Fatah political official, said at a news conference held in 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp this afternoon.

Wahbah said Fatah released nine other detainees yesterday. He said that Fatah is opposed to any Palestinian-Palestinian, Lebanese-Lebanese, or Lebanese-Palestinian fighting because this only serves Israel. He recalled the PLO initiatives on the situations in the eastern area and in the Iqlim al-Tuffah region.

Al-Huss Returns From New York

NC0410164790 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss returned to Beirut from New York at 1600 today. [passage omitted]

Afghanistan

Further on Mujahidin Capture of Central Province

BK0410130690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1231 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 4 (AFP)—The mujahidin Thursday claimed to have captured the central Afghan province of Oruzgan after three weeks of fighting for control of its capital Tarin Kowt.

Rebel sources said provincial governor 'Abdul Shakoor [name as received] surrendered to the mujahidin guerrillas Wednesday, adding the resistance had taken administrative control of the whole province. They said the rebels captured nine battle tanks and armoured personnel carriers besides thousands of small arms and food supplies.

Tarin Kowt was the only city the government in Kabul controlled in the province as the surrounding area was already under mujahidin control, the sources said. The capture of Oruzgan follows reports from different sources that the mujahidin have intensified their attacks ahead of the Afghan winter, which hampers military activity.

Tarin Kowt's 8,000 population had welcomed the mujahidin into the city and the "takeover was smooth," the sources said. Sources in the southwestern Pakistani city of Quetta, bordering Afghanistan, said the operation was planned by Zabit Tahir [name as received], commander of the Jamiyat-e Eslami faction, one of the seven Pakistan-based resistance parties.

While the governor surrendered without much of a struggle, some 60 soldiers belonging to the hardline Khalq faction of Kabul's ruling party and some members of the Khad secret police, "who knew their destiny," took up positions at the airport and key government installations, they said. But resistance was overcome, the sources added.

Other sources in the northwestern Pakistani city of Peshawar said the guerrilla attack was mounted three weeks ago when some 1,500 mujahidin surrounded the provincial capital. Reinforcements from southern Qandahar, who arrived about two weeks ago, changed the situation in the mujahidin's favour.

Oruzgan is the fifth Afghan province captured by the mujahidin after the seizure of eastern Kunar and Paktika and northern Takhar and Bamiyan, the sources said. Reports here said that while another province, Zabul, in the south, was also threatened, the resistance were planning a major offensive on Kabul itself sometime this month.

Western diplomats in Islamabad said the situation for government troops in Zabul Province was bad as its capital Qalat remains under siege. The resistance captured four key posts in the city and "isolated regime forces in a fort" overlooking the city, the diplomats said.

Resistance sources claim the mujahidin are in control of 90 per cent of the city and that government troops were only in the mountains. A government relief convoy from nearby Qandahar for the city was ambushed by the guerrillas well short of its destination, they said. The guerrillas destroyed seven military vehicles and killed six soldiers. They also captured 16 soldiers from highway posts set up to provide a smooth passage for the convoy.

The regime sent two helicopters to airlift casualties, but rebel gunners shot down one and captured the second when it landed in their area, the sources said. Later the mujahidin flew the captured helicopter to Arghistan in Qandahar Province.

In a bid to recapture the helicopter government planes bombed the town causing damage to a United Nations-aided Operation Salam relief and reconstruction project in the town, several sources said. An official for Operation Salam here denied their project was hit. He said the helicopter landed some 600 meters (yards) from their logistic base in Arghistan and that the planes fired rockets at the helicopter but did not hit it.

Mujahidin sources said that as the bombing was continuing, the helicopter had been removed from Arghistan to a safer, undisclosed site. Later the rebels' official news agency MIDIA [MEDIA INFORMATION DEPARTMENT OF ISLAMIC PAKISTAN] confirmed the fall of Tarin Kowt, adding, "with the provincial administration disintegrated, the Kabul regime resorted to indiscriminate bombing." To avenge its humiliating defeat the Afghan regime planes carried out repeated air strikes, it said. No casualty figure was given.

The agency said mujahidin have hoisted green flags of the resistance's Afghan interim government at the city's airport and other important buildings including the governor house and central prison. It said the attack was a joint operation involving mujahidin of different parties. The capture of Tarin Kowt would be the mujahidin's first major victory against the Kabul government since the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan in February last year.

Government Statement on Pakistan, 'Extremists'

LD0410211190 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 4 Oct 90

[“Statement by the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan”; date and place not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. Our dear compatriots know that the Geneva accords practically prepare the ground for a peaceful solution to the Afghan issue. On the eve of the withdrawal of Soviet troops, as well as after the withdrawal, various plans and proposals outlining various ways and means to restore peace nationwide and to reconstruct Afghanistan, in line with supreme national interests and with the acceptance of the principle of the participation

of all political forces, organizations, and propeace personalities, were devised and presented.

The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan, with the assistance of God and the broad assistance of the people, managed to defend the country's independence and national sovereignty after the signing of the Geneva accords, despite all military and economic pressure and various types of foreign interference, and proved in practice its ability to survive and maintain a presence.

The government adjusted its domestic and foreign policy at national and international levels accordingly, proposed amendments to the Constitution, and organized the new government of nonparty personalities, despite all the difficulties and problems. The principles of political pluralism and market economy as the foundations of the country's economic and political systems were worked on to safeguard the independence of the courts, judiciary, and nonparty prosecution offices.

Differences over a political solution to the Afghan issue at the international level are, for the most part, decreasing, and the position of the United States and the Soviet Union on Afghanistan are closer now than at any other time.

All these developments gradually prepare the ground for shaping inter-Afghan understanding and for elections under UN supervision.

Although hopeful horizons for political and peaceful solutions to Afghan issues are being noticed, some military circles in Pakistan, particularly the military intelligence service in Pakistan, are trying once again to provoke and encourage the extremists, especially the Gulbuddin and Sayyaf groups, to fight, destroy, and kill Afghans.

The government of the Republic of Afghanistan has accurate information in hand that the military circles of Pakistan, with the participation of the officials belonging to the military intelligence service of this country, yet again have planned to involve the extremists in another preparation, such as an attack on Jalalabad, to launch attacks on Kabul city and simultaneously attack a number of other provinces, and, parallel to this, when the return of the refugees is being continued, to cut off major highways of the country.

The information received further says that the Armed Forces of Pakistan will participate in attacks on some border provinces.

The intensification of missile attacks in Kabul city which, even on the birthday of the great prophet of Islam, peace be upon him, resulted in the martyrdom and injury of dozens of Kabul citizens, is in reality an example of new warmongering and barbarous activities of the extremists and their supporters, who hope to carry out such attacks as part of a predesigned plan and on a broader scale.

As the development of the situation in Pakistan and analysis of public opinion in this country reveal, the situation is

developing for the interest of prodemocracy forces and a solution of Afghan issues through utilizing political and peaceful means; therefore, the military circles of Pakistan are using the extremists to carry out a new military adventure in Afghanistan for diverting the public opinion in this country, on one hand, and preventing the political solution of the Afghan issue, on the other hand, without considering the shaping of understanding between the Soviet Union and United States which prepare the ground for inter-Afghan understanding.

Now, when international public opinion is directed toward the Gulf crisis, which can at any time endanger international peace and security, such activities by the known military circles of Pakistan will provide another serious danger that will help create a regional crisis.

The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan announces with decisiveness that this time, too, it will resolutely defend and stand up to the warmongering and subversive action by the extremists and aggressors. Any sound mind dictates that those who persist with military pressure and who continue a war should learn a lesson from the war in Jalalabad, Kandahar, Khost, and other regions of the country and no longer perpetrate the great sins of killing Muslims and plundering, destroying, and unleashing aggression on the territory of Afghanistan.

The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan once again announces its commitment to the policy of a peaceful solution to the Afghan issue: the path of fighting is not the choice of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan. However, if war yet again is imposed on our people, the armed forces of the Republic of Afghanistan, wherever they are and under whatever condition they live, will resolutely defend the country against the aggressors, warmongers, and enemies of peace and security, with the support of the freedom-loving people of Afghanistan. However, the responsibility for the consequence of all these activities will rest on armed opposition extremists and militarists of Pakistan. The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan is fully confident that the brave and freedom-loving nation of Afghanistan, in accordance with the tradition of their ancestors, this time too, in a unified manner and with high morale, will stand up to the end for the defense of the homeland and national honors as they stood up against enormous pressures by the extremists and aggressor and displayed at all times bravery and courage after the withdrawal of Soviet troops.

The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan draws the attention of the UNO and international public opinion to the dangers stemming from the intensification of intervention, even to the armed aggression of Pakistan against the Republic of Afghanistan, which is contrary to the spirit and text of the Geneva accords, and call on them to take serious measures to prevent further intensification of the situation.

Sorabi Meets Soviet Envoy, Discusses Aid*LD0410185590 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 4 Oct 90*

[Text] The prime minister's press office reports that Dr. 'Abdul Wahid Sorabi, deputy prime minister and minister of planning met this afternoon with Boris Nikolayevich Pastukhov, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Soviet Union in Kabul. During this meeting talks were held on the expansion, acceleration, and improvement of Soviet assistance to Afghanistan.

Government Appoints Directors General*LD0410202390 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 4 Oct 90*

[Text] The prime minister's press office reports that, based on the proposal of the Prime Minister's Office and with the approval of esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, the following appointments have been made:

Mohammed Sharif Sharifi, director general of the Department of Council of Ministers Affairs (Khalilollah Amid), director general of the Department of Control and Investigation of the Council of Ministers 'Abdul Wahhab Asefi, director general of the Bank of Afghanistan

Gholam Jelani Karger, director general of the cooperation Department of the Council of Ministers 'Abdul Latif Nurzad, head of the Central Department of Housing and Urban Construction

Bangladesh**15,000 Citizens Decide To Stay in Kuwait, Iraq***BK0410170490 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 4 Oct 90*

[Text] According to Foreign Office sources in Dhaka, at least 15,000 Bangladeshi nationals have decided to stay back in Kuwait and Iraq. Of them, about 10,000 are in Kuwait and 5,000 in Iraq. Meanwhile, the repatriation of Bangladeshi nationals is almost complete with about 1,300 awaiting at Amman's (Andalus) refugee camp. Bangladesh will however keep open its repatriation camp at Amman till Wednesday [10 October]. Those willing to come back home will be airlifted from Amman by this period.

Government Increases Prices of Petroleum Products*BK0510090390 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 4 Oct 90*

[Text] The government has increased the prices of petroleum products by fifty percent with immediate effect. At a news conference in Dhaka today, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Ziauddin Ahmad said the Government had to increase the price as the international oil market has fluctuated between 35 and 42 dollars a barrel during the last one week. The new prices of petroleum

products per liter are octane 14 taka 95 paise and petrol, diesel and kerosene 14 taka each. The energy minister said there is sufficient stock of oil in the country. To ensure oil to the rural people at retail price fixed by the government, 675 fair-price shops have been opened by oil company all over the country. The government is also considering expediting production of compressed natural gas [CNG] and liquified petroleum gas on an emergency basis to use them as alternative fuel. In one year time 12 CNG filling stations will be set up in Dhaka and within three years 60 such stations all over the country.

The energy minister said the country will produce one million tons of coal annually by the end of 1992 from its coal deposit at (Boro Pukia) in Dinajpur District. Work on extraction of coal will be undertaken by the middle of next year with financial assistance of the Asian Development Bank. The estimated deposit of coal at (Baro Pukia) is 350 million tons. Efforts are also underway to extract coal from Pirganj in Rangpur during the current plan period.

India**Both Parliament Houses Pass Bill on Punjab***BK0410164090 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 4 Oct 90*

[Text] Parliament has given its approval to the 76th Constitution amendment bill clearing the way for extension of president's rule in Punjab for another six months beyond the 10th of November. It secured almost unanimous support in both the houses. The bill, passed by the Lok Sabha earlier during the day, was adopted by the Rajya Sabha with 212 in favor and four against. In the Lok Sabha, it received 453 in favor and eight against. The house had to waive the rules to allow reintroduction of the bill which fell through on Monday [1 October] for want of requisite majority.

Replying to the points made by the members in the Lok Sabha, the home minister, Mufti Muhammad Sayeed, said the government will endeavor to create a congenial atmosphere for a free and fair election within six months. He appealed to all political parties to join hands with the government in this effort.

In the Rajya Sabha, the minister of state for home, Mr. Subodh Kant Sahay, said that the government is very serious about solving the Punjab problem. He said the government made efforts to start a political process and the concept of decentralization of power has been implemented. He outlined the various steps taken by the center for the economic development of the state. The minister said that new guidelines have been given to the police not to harass innocent people.

Earlier, participating in the debate, members in the Rajya Sabha wanted early elections to the state assembly.

The Congress-I members, however, charged the government for not being able to hold the elections as promised.

Singh Renews Call for Talks on Job Quota Issue

*BK0410163090 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 4 Oct 90*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh, today said that the government is keen on a dialogue with students agitating against the reservation of jobs for backward classes and will pursue the matter with vice chancellors, teachers, and others to come to an understanding. Expressing his deep anguish over the loss of young lives in the antireservation stir, he appealed to the youth not to take any extreme steps like self-immolation. The prime minister was intervening in a debate on an adjournment motion moved by Mr. B. Shankaranand, Congress-I, which was defeated by a voice vote amidst walkout by Congress-I members.

Responding to the points made during the debate, the prime minister said that reservation for backward classes is a bold step to establish a more equitable social order. Equity, he said, is the central concern of the National Front government. And just as the establishment of the Interstate Council and autonomy to the AIR and Doordarshan [All India Radio and Indian television] are the steps for political equity, and the allocation of 50 percent of the resources for the rural sector is aimed at economic equity, the reservation is for social equity.

After the prime minister's speech, when the speaker, Mr. Rabi Ray, called Mr. Shankaranand, who had moved the motion, to reply to the debate, Congress-I members insisted that more time should be allocated as many other members want to take part in the discussion. There was large protest from the treasury benches and the supporting parties as members pointed out that the house had already exceeded the time schedule. Congress-I members then staged a walkout.

Earlier, in the afternoon, Mr. B. Shankaranand, moving the motion, alleged that the law and order machinery has completely broken down and more harm has been done to the backward classes by the manner in which the reservations are being done. He said his party is not against reservation, but it is opposed to manner in which it has been done. While the Janata Dal members strongly defended the government's action, the BJP, CPI, and CPI-M [Bharatiya Janata Party, Communist Party of India and Communist Party of India-Marxist] members accused the Congress-I of adopting double standards. The National Front and its allies demanded an inquiry into the violent incidents in the capital in the wake of October the 2d rally.

The minister of state for external affairs, Mr. Hari Kishore Singh, intervening in the debate also supported the demand for an inquiry into the incident and agreed with the members that students have been exploited and misguided by vested interests. While some members from the treasury benches and supporting parties blamed

Congress-I for instigating the trouble, Congress-I members leveled similar charges against the BJP and some other elements within the ruling party. A BSP [Bahujan Samaj Party] member alleged that both the Congress-I and the BJP were behind the trouble.

Evacuation Planned for 20,000 in Kuwait

*BK0410170290 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 4 Oct 90*

[Text] Only 20,000 Indians are now left in Kuwait and all of them will be evacuated in the next five days. Our Gulf correspondent, Avinash Goel, reports that 3,200 people left Kuwait in 80 buses today for Jordan. The ninth flight of the air force plane IL-76 took off this morning from Basra for Bombay. Tomorrow will be the last flight to evacuate the sick and the old. The Indian Embassy sources in Baghdad say that of the 9,000 Indians in Iraq at the beginning of the crisis, only 3,000 have returned to India. The rest are engaged in time-bound contracts and 1,000 of them want to return to India.

The Geneva-based International Organization for Migration has agreed to provide additional 13,000 seats for the air travel of stranded Indian nationals from Amman to Bombay. This was disclosed by the external affairs ministry's chief evacuation coordinator, Mr. Ratan Sehgal, in Amman today. Our special correspondent, Prabhakar Mishra, reports from Amman that the influx of Indian nationals from Kuwait has now come down. According to information available in Amman, about 2,000 Indian nationals have reached the Iraq-Jordan border today.

Iran

Clerics, Others Express Support for Khamene'i

*NC0510081490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 5 Oct 90*

[Text] Political and religious figures, organizations, Islamic and revolutionary associations, and scientific and cultural institutes are continuing to express their absolute support for the momentous remarks by His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, on the need for united popular participation in the second round of elections for the Council of Experts and in support of the Council of Guardians.

The deputy of the vali-ye faqih [supreme jurisconsult] in Khuzestan Province, who is also the Ahvaz Friday imam, has sent a telegram stating his support and that of the people of Khuzestan Province for the important remarks by the great leader of the Islamic revolution.

The telegram states: Alongside our compatriots in other parts of the country, we express our support for your excellency's fateful and important remarks on the first

day of Unity Week in defense of the jurisconsults of the Council of Guardians and we pledge to abide by your orders.

The Dezful Friday imam also cabled his readiness for absolute obedience to the exhortations of Ayatollah Khamene'i, the great leader of the Islamic revolution.

The Zarand Friday imam also issued a statement announcing his complete and multilateral support and that of the people of Zarand, for the wise and careful guidance of the leader of the Islamic Revolution, and called for extensive popular participation in the fateful elections to the Council of Experts.

According to reports, the nationwide secretariat of the Friday imams, congregational imams, and deputies of the vali-ye faqih in the country's universities, as well as women's associations, have issued individual statements on their unequivocal support for the recent remarks by the leader of the Islamic revolution, denouncing all actions intended to create discord and weaken the Council of Guardians, and asking the people to participate in the decisive elections to the Council of Experts in a united manner.

Commentary Stresses Experts Elections

NC0410181690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Central News Unit Research Group commentary]

[Text] In the name of God.

Next Monday [8 October], on the birth anniversary of the Holy Prophet—peace be upon him and his scion—the Council of Experts elections will be held country-wide. People in every province will go to the polls and will elect their province's representatives in the second round of the Council of Experts elections. From among the volunteers from all over the country whose qualifications have been endorsed by the jurisconsults of the Council of Guardians, 83 will gain membership of the Council of Experts.

Following the establishment of the system of the Islamic Republic, the people of our Muslim nation have approved the destiny of this system by their presence at various scenes, and have proved the popular base of the Islamic Republic and their active role in forging its destiny.

Despite numerous hardships during the past 12 years, and despite the propaganda, psychological war, and the plots by the Revolution's enemies to remove people from the scene, the people have demonstrated their political acumen and awareness in recognizing the sensitivity of the situation and in delineating their future course of action, in addition to affirming the popular backing of the system of the Islamic Republic with their extensive presence in support of the Revolution.

The Council of Experts elections on 8 October are of high-level importance and sensitivity in view of the status and role of this Council, and this importance and sensitivity dictates the unified presence of the people at the polls. According to the Constitution, the Council of Experts has momentous responsibilities. In Article 107 of the Constitution, the task of selecting the leader has been given to the Council of Experts. According to Article 111, the supervision over the leader in maintaining his conditions for leadership or his dismissal is entrusted to the Experts.

In view of these duties, the Council of Experts has been assigned a fundamental role in guaranteeing the stability and the consolidation of the Islamic Republic's system, especially in critical conditions, and in preventing deviations from the course of the Revolution. This is because, at certain junctures when society has a vacuum in the leadership, this Council fulfills its obligation and seeks to fill this vacuum and to safeguard society from becoming embroiled in a crisis. Following the demise of the imam—may his soul be sanctified—when murmurings of a reign of chaos and disarray in the Islamic Republic could be heard—the Council of Experts silenced these murmurs with its timely and befitting selection of His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i.

On the other hand, the Islamic Republic of Iran's system is based on popular consent. In view of this characteristic, the constant presence of the people in the elections has been affirmed as the standard for gauging the people's support for Iran's system. It was on this basis that Imam Khomeyni—may his soul be sanctified—reiterated on various occasions the participation of the people in elections and called on them to participate actively. In his politico-divine will he stated: I request the noble nation to be present at all elections.

From this point of view, participation in next Monday's elections is of immense sensitivity and importance. In view of this situation, and because the propaganda by world arrogance has constantly revolved on axes that assert everything except the truth about Iran—so that by creating suspicions the backing of the popular backing of the system of the Islamic Republic would be destroyed—the unified and extensive presence of the people in electing the Council of Experts is imperative.

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i said in his speech yesterday on the eve of the Council of Experts elections, regarding the solidarity and unity of the people, that participation in the elections is a religious obligation and is compulsory. While affirming the sensitivity of the Council of Experts elections, this remarks also underlines the mandatory nature of the active presence in these elections for the Iranian people.

Our country's Muslims, whose presence at the various arenas document their immutable endorsement in the support and backing of the Islamic Republic of Iran, will ensure a strong and popular buttress for the Council of Experts in performing its momentous responsibilities by

casting their lofty votes in the 8 October elections and will once again display the popular backing of the Islamic Republic.

IRGC Navy To Conduct Maneuvers, Buy Warships

LD0410090690 Tehran IRNA in English 1743 GMT
3 Oct 90

[Text] Nowshahr (Mazandaran), Oct. 3, IRNA—Naval units of the Army and the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) are to launch a joint maneuver in the Persian Gulf waters during the next three months, announced IRGC Naval Commander Hoseyn Alae'i today. He said "select arsenals of the two naval forces are to display their combined powers," in accordance with the instructions of the Islamic Republic leader and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i that "the two forces equally shoulder their missions."

"We are considering buying special types of vessels to defend the Persian Gulf, and would launch IRGC warships and frigates at an appropriate time," Alae'i added. The commander, who was in the caspian town of Chalus to address a group of navy cadets at the Maritime College of Science and Technology, told IRNA that soon the Chalus College of Maritime Science and Technology would become one of the advanced centers of its kind in the country. "IRGC naval forces have the attacking power to react swiftly against enemies of the Islamic Republic", he concluded.

Editorial Assesses British Ties; Cooper Issue

NC0410195790 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES
in English 29 Sep 90 pp 2,4

[Editorial: "Resumption of Anglo-Iranian Relations"]

[Text] Last Thursday Anglo-Iranian diplomatic relations were resumed after an 18-month break. What is certain is that in the era of world interdependent-relationships, many former equations are likely to be upset.

In the past Western countries, including England, were only concerned with their own interests in their relations with other countries.

In the past England used to do what it pleased in their own interests without regard to the interests of others and were generally successful.

Today, however, the world must know that the year is 1990. Changes have occurred in countries such as Iran and indicate that these relations should consider mutual interests and respect of both parties.

Resumption of diplomatic ties between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Britain took place without any preconditions. To be sure, the position assumed by British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd which linked the renewal of relations to Roger Cooper and the hostages is

open to criticism although he has specified that Iran is not in any way committed on these grounds.

The release of Roger Cooper, who is in prison in Iran as a spy is purely a legal issue and is not per se related to the resumption of diplomatic relations.

According to the Constitution the handling and prosecution of a criminal is in the jurisdiction of the judicial power and this power is not subservient to decisions made by the Executive Power and only the Office of Leadership can, if it so decides, pardon him or persons like him.

Among other points that need attention is the issue of hostages in Lebanon. It is an established fact that the positions of Iran vis-a-vis the hostages has been open and known to all. The Islamic Republic of Iran is, in principle, opposed to hostage-taking and has always tried to use its moral influence for the liberation of the Western hostages. But, it must be realized that Muslims in Lebanon expect a serious pressure on Israel by the West in return for release of the hostages.

However, the atrocities and oppression of Israel are not admissible by any human, Islamic and international rule.

The answer of the West to the goodwill of Lebanese Muslim in this regard is important. Considering that England has more influence with Israel than any other Western power. It is expected that, with the renewal of relations, the British government reciprocates the goodwill by releasing some of the Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners and hostages currently in Israel and in the Phalangists prisons.

At any rate the fact is that the two states of Iran and England have very important grounds for negotiation and cooperation in various areas and on the international level.

It must be said that one of the issues, existing between Iran and the EC was the lack of relations between Iran and Britain. And now, the renewal of diplomatic relations between Iran and England side by side with the important and constructive talks held during the past few months between Iran and the European Community will make the Iran-Europe relations normal following the meetings with Dr. Velayati at the U.N. with the foreign ministers of Ireland, Italy, and Luxembourg, members of the Troika of the EEC. To be sure the complete normalization of Iranian relations with the European Community can lead to extensive cooperation in many areas particularly the Persian Gulf crisis.

Editorial Views Soviet Diplomatic Efforts

NC0410193490 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES
in English 30 Sep 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Moscow Moves Fast on Better Ties With Conservative Arab Governments"]

[Text] Only a week after the establishment of diplomatic ties between Moscow and Riyadh, Bahrain too has followed suit.

Foreign Ministers from the two countries met in New York and announced the news on the restoration of ties. The two sides said the Bahrain-Moscow relations will serve regional interests. Bahrain is the last of the six-member (Persian) Gulf Cooperation Council which resumes ties with Moscow.

The plan for establishment [of] relations or resumption of ties with conservative Arab countries was among the foreign policy drives of the USSR since the coming to power of President Mikhail Gorbachev.

The resumption of ties between Saudi Arabia and the USSR after no less than five decades was indicative of Moscow's effort to prove that the current Persian Gulf crisis has no adverse impact on the foreign relations of the country. In fact the crisis seems to have given the Russians a better standing in the regional scene.

The restoration of ties with the Bahrainis too could be predicted in the light of the thaw in relations that was followed by official resumption of ties with Riyadh. It was foreseeable for the simple fact that the Bahrainis throughout recent years have proven time and again that they only follow on the Saudis' tail and have not much to say on their own as far as foreign policy is concerned.

But perhaps more important than the ties with Bahrain is the question as to how far the Soviets wish to take their ties with conservative Arab governments.

Official ties between governments however are potentially conducive to establishing very close relations between them. For Bahrain it seems the relations will not expand much in the economic realm given the quite big difference that exists in the present economic structure of the two nations. But perhaps the ties with Bahrain may be a prelude to expansion of ties with all the Persian Gulf Arab countries which might be thought to be considering to bring about some variety to their weaponry systems and purchases.

If the conservative Arab regimes wish to move along this line and add the USSR to their arms sources they will not receive a 'no' from the Muscovites. The Russians need foreign currency. But it does not seem likely that the USSR is prepared at this stage to provide its new conservative Arab friends with weapons of any strategic

Sudanese Delegation Continues Official Meetings

Meets With Defense Minister

*LD0110211790 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT
1 Oct 90*

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 1, IRNA—Member of Sudan's leadership council Colonel Sulayman Muhammad Sulayman in a meeting with Iran's minister of defence and the armed forces logistics Akbar Torkan Monday called for

expansion of mutual ties and cooperation. Sulayman said that he and his entourage had come to Iran with a "motive of friendship and brotherhood", and hoped that his visit would help bring closer the two Muslim peoples of Iran and Sudan.

Torkan said the Islamic Republic had studied grounds for cooperation and was ready to take practical steps towards their materialization. Pointing to the Persian Gulf crisis, Torkan while condemning Iraq's August 2 occupation of Kuwait, said "inviting foreign presence near the Islamic sanctuaries unveiled the real nature of the Saudi rulers more clearly than ever before."

Sulayman Confers With Velayati

*NC0410174890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 4 Oct 90*

[Text] Mr. Sulayman Muhammad Sulayman, member of the Sudanese Command Council met Foreign Minister Velayati last night. They discussed issues of mutual interest, cooperation, international issues, and regional developments.

The member of the Sudanese Command Council expressed his praise and appreciation of the combatant role of the Islamic Revolution of Iran in its confrontation with the enemies of Islam, and said: Since the advent of the Islamic revolution, we have been following the gains of the Iranian Muslim nation with amazement. It has affirmed for the Sudanese Muslim nation that this great Islamic revolution is a model and guide for all oppressed nations.

He lauded the Islamic Republic of Iran's extensive efforts for an amicable settlement of the Persian Gulf crisis, and clarified that Sudan has condemned the Iraqi aggression and the presence of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf.

Referring to the importance of ties with Sudan, Mr. Velayati declared the willingness of the Islamic Republic of Iran to expand those ties. Elaborating on our stance on the Persian Gulf crisis, he said: In our view, the longer this crisis continues, the greater the harm to the Islamic world. Regional security should be protected by cooperation between the regional countries.

Agree on Gulf Stance

*LD0410100290 Tehran IRNA in English 0847 GMT
4 Oct 90*

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 4, IRNA—Member of the Revolutionary Command Council of Sudan Sulayman Muhammad Sulayman conferred on Iran-Sudan relations with Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here Wednesday. He praised Iran's stand on the situation at the Persian Gulf, saying that as Iran had condemned aggression and the presence of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf so, too, had his government adopted the same position towards the current Persian Gulf developments.

In response Velayati voiced Iran's readiness to broaden relations with Sudan adding that Iran is opposed both to the occupation of Kuwait and to the presence in the region of foreign troops. He said the Islamic Republic of Iran advocates peaceful means for solving the current situation at the Persian Gulf.

Velayati said as far as Iran sees it the longer the situation continues the more harmful it will be to the Muslim world. He said the problems at the Persian Gulf should be solved solely by the Persian Gulf states.

22 Sudanese Mercenaries Released

LD0410165590 Tehran IRNA in English 1522 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 4, IRNA—Iran on Thursday released 22 Sudanese mercenaries captured during the Iraqi war and handed them over to member of Sudan's Revolutionary Command Council Colonel Sulayman Muhammad Sulayman at Tehran Airport. Of the group, 21 had been taken captive on the southern fronts nine years ago and the remaining one a year before the Islamic Republic accepted U.N. Resolution 598 (July 1988).

Watched by reporters and representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross at the airport, the former mercenaries thanked the Islamic Republic for their release. The group, along with the Sudanese official who arrived in Tehran earlier this week, flew to Sharaja [name as received], from where they will board a Sudanese airliner for Khartoum.

Delegation Signs Protocol, Departs

LD0510083490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Sulayman Muhammad Sulayman, a member of the Sudanese Leadership Council, who came to Iran at the head of an economic delegation, left Tehran for Khartoum this afternoon. He was seen off by the minister of defense and Armed Forces Logistics of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Before leaving, he said that his meetings with our country's officials had been fruitful and the talks concentrated on the expansion of mutual cooperation. Our correspondent reports that a protocol signed during the visit of the member of the Sudanese Leadership Council provides for the two countries to cooperate in oil-related fields and the Ministries of Petroleum and Reconstruction Jihad are to dispatch specialist teams to Sudan.

Omani Commerce, Industry Minister Arrives

LD2909111690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] Mr. Salim Bin-'Abdallah al-Ghazalim, Oman's minister of commerce and industry, arrived in Tehran this morning at the head of an economic and industrial delegation, and was welcomed by Mr. Nezhad-Hoseynian, minister of heavy industries of our country.

Oman's minister of commerce and industry, who has come to our country to follow up the work of the joint economic and industrial cooperation commission between Iran and Oman, to meet and hold talks with the industrial officials of our country, and to visit the 16th International Tehran Fair, expressed his hope that economic and industrial cooperation between Iran and Oman—especially in the field of heavy industries—will be further expanded.

Economic Cooperation Talks Begin

LD2909173190 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 29 Sep 90

[Text] The first round of talks between Iran and Oman in the second session of the joint economic and industrial cooperation commission convened in Tehran this evening in the presence of Oman's minister of commerce and industry, and our country's minister of heavy industries.

The Central News Unit reports that during the session the two sides stressed the necessity of expanding amicable relations and economic cooperation. It was also decided that Iranin dhows should begin voyages between the country's southern ports and Qabus port in Oman, in order to provide the two countries with commercial facilities.

Omani Minister Comments

LD0110210690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 1 Oct 90

[Text] Salih Bin-'Abdallah al-Ghazali, minister of trade and industries of Oman, who visited Tehran at the head of a delegation consisting of representatives of public and private sectors in that country, left Tehran for Muscat this afternoon.

Nejad-Hoseinian, minister of heavy industries and the president of the Iranian side at the Iranian-Omani Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation, said in an interview with our correspondent today at the end of the meeting of the commission that the problem of travel between Iran and Oman by industrialists and businessmen is the biggest problem in economic relations between the two countries. He said that it was decided at the meeting that Oman should solve the problem of issuing visas for Iranian industrialists and businessmen within the coming month. Thus, Oman can provide practical possibilities for an expansion of trade between the two countries. Also, Oman is to provide facilities for Iranian ships to call at Qabus Port in Oman.

He added. The presidents of the Chambers of Commerce of the two countries also agreed to expand relations between the private sector of Iran and Oman. Thus, the way for the expansion of trading exchange between them will be paved.

Mr. Nejad-Hoseinian said that the agreement on direct exports of fresh fruits and vegetables from Iran to Oman,

as well as joint investment and pooling of resources between the Iranian marine industries and Oman for shipbuilding in that country, and finally, joint investment in production of fruit juice were among topics which the two sides agreed on in their meeting of the joint commission for economic cooperation. He said the necessary efforts to follow up these projects will be made.

Meanwhile, Mr. al-Ghazali, Oman's minister of commerce and industries, said in an interview with our reporter: In the Tehran meeting a program with a timetable has been prepared to implement the points on which the two countries have agreed. In the coming weeks we will see the implementation of the agreed projects.

He added: Increasing exchanges of official and private delegations between the two countries to explore the problems carefully will bring about the possibility of an increase in trading exchanges between Iran and Oman.

Omani Minister Ends Visit, Departs

*LD0110173490 Tehran Television Service in Persian
1600 GMT 1 Oct 90*

[Text] Salim Bin-Abdallah al-Ghazali, minister of commerce and industries of Oman, who was in Tehran at the head of a delegation consisting of the representatives of that country's private and public sectors, left Tehran for Muscat this afternoon at the end of the second meeting of the Iran-Omani joint commission for economic cooperation.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Briefs New Envoy to Germany

*LD0410125190 Tehran IRNA in English 1034 GMT
4 Oct 90*

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 4 IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here Thursday [4 October] underlined the importance of expansion and strengthening of relations between Iran and Germany. He made the remark in a meeting with the newly appointed Iranian ambassador to Germany Seyyed Hoseyn Musavian this morning.

President Rafsanjani pointed to the recent major developments in Europe and in the region and said that problems on the way of establishing ties with the West European countries had been solved. He underscored the importance of the unification of the two Germanys and told Musavian that he was expected to make utmost efforts in regulating relations between the two countries in all fields.

German, Japanese Envoys Discuss Relations

*LD0410084490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 3 Oct 90*

[Text] The West German National Day was celebrated today, coinciding with the unification of the two Germanys, at the 16th Tehran International Trade Fair.

In those ceremonies, the ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany elaborated on characteristics of the two Germanys unification, and announcing the readiness of the German government and private firms for economic and trade cooperation with Iran, expressed the hope that the friendly economic relations between the two countries will be demonstrated during the implementation of the first Iranian five year [economic] plan.

Then the deputy foreign minister for West European Affairs, expressed the hope that the friendly ties between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United Germany will expand. He said: Expansion of exports of traditional and industrial goods, discovery of the new secure markets and in particular access to the European markets have a special level of significance for Iran.

The same report mentions that Japan's National Day was also celebrated today at the International Trade Fair in Tehran. In those ceremonies, the Japanese ambassador announced the readiness of his country for cooperation with Iran and expressed confidence that bilateral ties expand more than before through staging of such exhibitions.

In those ceremonies, the director general for Far East and Ocean Affairs of our country's Foreign Ministry also noted that Japan always enjoyed Iranian assistance in the severe conditions at the time of oil crisis, and announced our country's wish to use Japan's economic facilities.

It is worth mentioning that in the Tehran Exhibition 37 Japanese firms display their weaving, tool making, communication instruments, agriculture, and computer machinery.

Long-Term Trade Accord Signed With Poland

*LD0410124490 Tehran IRNA in English 1017 GMT
4 Oct 90*

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 4, IRNA—Iran and Poland Wednesday [3 October] evening signed a long-term trade agreement which anticipates Poland's annual purchase of the equivalent of \$80 million in non-oil products from Iran, and mutual cooperation for the manufacture of mining machinery, fishery and industrial projects.

The agreement was signed by Polish Minister of Foreign Trade relations, Marcin Swiecicki, and Iran's commerce minister 'Abdol Hoseyn Vahaji. The Polish official was in Tehran for a one day official visit on the occasion of 16th Tehran International Trade Fair which opened in the presence of President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and invited guests last Monday.

UN Envoy Reviews Refugee Situation in Kuwait

*LD0410145890 Tehran IRNA in English 1339 GMT
4 Oct 90*

[Text] Orumiyeh, West Azerbaijan Prov., Oct. 4, IRNA—Some 500,000 foreign nationals have fled

Kuwait with the help of neighboring countries since the tiny shaykhdom was invaded by Iraq on August 2, a senior U.N. envoy said here Thursday.

Sadrudin Agha Khan, the U.N. chief's special envoy said that according to U.N. estimates 150,000 foreign nationals have been stranded in Kuwait of whom 50,000 were Sri Lankan women. Agha Khan said he was here at the head of a delegation to provide more transportation facilities and other basic goods for those refugees crossing Iranian border on their way home. Referring to Iran's role in hosting refugees, the U.N. envoy said the Islamic republic has so far offered the best assistance to them.

Iran hosts millions of Afghan and Iraqi refugees and is among the first few countries with the highest number of refugees in the world. Ali Sa'adat, West Azerbaijan deputy governor-general said since August 2, some 35,000 foreign nationals, mainly Pakistanis, Sri Lankan, Indian, Afghan, Filipino, Lebanese and Sudanese have crossed Bazargan and Sero borders in this western province and been directed towards the country's eastern border.

Editorial on Need for War 'Contingency' Plan

NC0410214090 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL
in English 29 Sep 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Contingency Time"]

[Text] Nearing the two-month mark since the Iraqi invasion and annexation of Kuwait, a happy ending to the Iraq-U.S. stand off has yet to appear on the horizon. There is also a complete lack of ideas afloat that might allow the two sides to disengage.

No government has unequivocally seconded Saddam's invasion of Kuwait but there does exist significant support for him among a fairly wide spectrum of Arab public opinion on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Jordan, North Africa, Yemen, Lebanon and quietly so even in Syria. Not surprisingly the fate of the al-Sabah family is hardly being mourned as this crisis has exacerbated the haves versus have-nots contradiction that has been steadily festering in the Arab world.

It should be obvious that Saddam will not bow to the threat of superior U.S. arms without what will be a very bloody conflict, whose time limit cannot be predicted and the consequences of which have every potential for standing the world's economy on its head.

One-third of the oil being traded on the market today is from Saudi Arabia and those fields will in all probability be targeted if hostilities commence. Even if the fields are not crippled, the workforce will flee. Black gold may well sell at \$80 a barrel and climbing.

On the other hand, the major problem with the forces arrayed against Saddam is that they are U.S.-led with an eye to having an American hand in control of Arab oil

resources. Given Washington's record of encouragement to Israeli expansionism and growing anti-U.S. sentiments in the region, does anyone imagine that peace will come to the region if Iraq is laid waste? In such a scenario, who will initiate U.N. action against Israel when that militarist nation overwhelms Jordan in the name of pre-emptive action against Iraq? She, after all, is in dire need of lebensraum for her Soviet emigres.

Moscow's increasing support for Washington's unholy aims can only increase what will certainly be feelings of victimization running rampant in the Muslim world if Iraq is devastated and this despite Muslim condemnation of Saddam's early August invasion. After all, six million Afghans are still war refugees in Iran and Pakistan courtesy of the Kremlin.

In this grim situation, Iran and those states and organizations truly committed to humanitarian concerns, should take a good, hard look at the map. Those with eyes to see will quickly realize that if hostilities erupt, Iran could well be host to 2-4m [million] more refugees.

Al-Basrah with a population of some 1m and Baghdad with nearly 4m, figure large in possible American air strike operations. The borders of Kuwait with Saudi Arabia and the Iraqi borders with Turkey, Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia will all be potential or actual war theaters.

Al-Basrah and Baghdad both are some two hours by road to Shalamchah and Qasr-e Shirin. More importantly the Iranian border will not be a battlefield as other borders will be. The Iraqis and Kuwaitis will certainly come this way and will have to be channelled through the crossings at Shalamchah and Qasr-e Shirin.

Aside from these two roads, the border will be virtually impassable for civilians because of trenches, barbed wire emplacements, canals and more ominously, mine fields left behind from the Iran-Iraq war. If this worst case scenario comes to pass, the very difficult situation being experienced in Jordan today will pale in comparison.

Now is the time to rapidly mobilize logistics needs and resources to prepare for a possible massive exodus. This is a question that Iran and particularly the United Nations, as the representative of the world community, should have looked at yesterday. Contingency planning is an urgent necessity to relieve what could be a human tragedy of immense proportions at the Iran-Iraq border.

Editorial Questions U.S. Ability To Wage War

NC0510055090 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL
in English 27 Sep 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Perils of U.S. Power Play"]

[Text] Much has been said about an international solution to the present Persian Gulf crisis and the role the United States will play in case of hostilities.

The United States President George Bush's decision to intervene militarily, further beef up the American contingent and the calling up of reserves for the first time in twenty years has raised the spectre of war in this part of the globe. Saddam Husayn's internment of Americans and British hostages in Baghdad and Kuwait had also triggered the highly volatile atmosphere in the Middle East.

Will Bush's war maneuvers in the Persian Gulf bring about Washington's desired results?

The massive United States military presence in such a sensitive and strategic region was intended purely to put America back in the driver's seat of world politics. However, after eight weeks of the so-called "war of nerves" between Washington and Baghdad, it appears that Bush has realized the long-term perils the United States will face in case of an all-out confrontation.

The future of America as a superpower now hangs by its ability to force Saddam Husayn's troops out of Kuwait—a prospect that seems to dim with each passing day. The Persian Gulf crisis also served to reveal rifts between America and her allies in Western Europe as well as its relations with foe-turned-friend, the Soviet Union.

Despite their joint declaration condemning Iraq for invading Kuwait, this unity has since waned. For one, Moscow still refused to renege on its contract regarding the presence of Soviet military advisers in Baghdad. Western leaders have also suggested that Kremlin officials are dragging their feet in adopting tougher United Nations resolutions against their long-time ally.

Estimates of possible U.S. casualties also overshadow Bush's ambition to topple Saddam Husayn. Pentagon generals figure that between 20,000 to 30,000 American soldiers could be killed once the actual shooting begins. This estimate means that this conflict would claim half as many lives as Vietnam did.

With the American economy on the verge of massive recession, the staggering cost of daily operations incurred by the United States just to save the Saudi Arabian rulers forewarns a bleak future for America. Today oil is selling at \$42 per barrel and no one expects the price to fall substantially in the near future.

There is also a threat of a new wave of retaliatory attacks on American and military targets in the Middle East and beyond. Already the U.S. presence in such concentration in the land which is home for Islam's holiest places have created burning discontent in the Muslim world.

A great deal of miscalculation characterized Bush's policy vis-a-vis the present crisis in the Persian Gulf. The United States cannot afford a lengthy encounter because the longer the Americans stay in the Persian Gulf, the more problems they will have to encounter. An American military action against Iraq will only result in losses far greater than any benefit it may yield.

Editorial Warns Against U.S. Presence in Gulf

NC2809101490 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL
in English 23 Sep 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Who Is a Threat—U.S. or Iraq?"]

[Text] Is the continuation of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait more dangerous than the U.S. playing the role of a gendarme in the entire region?

Washington's main goal for intervening in the Persian Gulf crisis was not its sympathy with the al-Sabah dynasty but to prove its leadership in the world and impose it on Europe and the Soviet Union. If the latter two are deceived by the U.S. schemes in this crisis, they would have willingly or unwillingly, given in to a world system dominated by the U.S.

Will the U.S. be holding the key of a gendarme for the entire world after Iraq's defeat? The future competition between the industrial powers will be economic and the one dominating the Persian Gulf oil resources will be the superior and victorious power.

Moscow has so far rejected a leadership role by the U.S. and instead demanded a collective security through the U.N. Security Council.

London finds her interests in a united Europe in following Washington as a gendarme for the whole world.

Paris seems to be confused as to what decision it should make. With the escalation of the crisis in the region a heightening of the internal differences in France seems likely because there are different views as to how Paris should tackle the crisis. France has always considered a leadership role in Europe for itself but a united Germany and the Persian Gulf crisis now seem impediments on its way to achieve the role. If France consents to a leadership role for the U.S. in the Persian Gulf it would certainly lose its own in Europe.

France has attempted to direct its forces under an independent command in the Middle East. Perhaps the most grave problem the Paris government is facing is the loss of its influence in the two strategic regions of Iraq and Lebanon—areas upon which the French colonialism counted a lot.

Perhaps a united Germany in Europe would be the most important country to prevent a leadership role by the U.S. under circumstances that different world countries are engaged in the Persian Gulf crisis, the Soviet Union and Germany concluded an all-out agreement as had been expected. [sentence as published] One example of this mutual cooperation is payment of billions of dollars in aid to Moscow by Germany.

The money is not a blackmail for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from East Germany alone, but West Germany too would need a strong Soviet ally to implement its future goals in Europe.

True that it is dangerous for Saddam Husayn to become a regional gendarme, but more dangerous would be a similar role assumed by Washington. Saddam is only an individual and the Ba'th party only a political group with a rootless ideology. But the U.S. is a system and to fight its hegemony would be more difficult and complicated.

The Islamic Republic of Iran as well as the regional people are against the expansionism and long-term presence of the U.S. or any other gendarme in the region.

The U.S. has apparently withdrawn from its past stance on creation of a semi-NATO security structure for the Persian Gulf region. In order to satisfy the Persian Gulf shaykhs and rulers, Washington even pretends that its security plan could first be implemented by Egypt and Syria. That is for the forces of these two countries to safeguard the security of the Persian Gulf littoral states!

If the regional nations do not maintain their vigilance they would face a fate worse than that of Kuwait at the hands of the U.S. troops.

Paper Links Gulf Crisis, European Changes

LD0410101390 Tehran IRNA in English 0843 GMT
4 Oct 90

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 4 IRNA—An Iranian daily Thursday believed that the current Persian Gulf crisis was perpetrated by the U.S. to counterbalance the power a German dominated Europe will have on the world economy. The English daily 'KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL' referred to Wednesday's unification of two German states and the current Persian Gulf crisis as two post cold war episodes and said, "it would be sheer simple-mindedness to think that the Persian Gulf crisis has nothing to do with the changes in the political map of Europe."

The daily's editorial termed as "foolish" to believe that Saddam Husayn's next target after Kuwait was Saudi Arabia and stressed that Washington was aware of Iraq's intentions on Kuwait. "The U.S. wanted its armed forces to be in full control of the richest oil fields of the world.... If the U.S. had not taken this action, it would not be in a position to safeguard NATO and its dominance of Europe."

The only country, the daily underlined, in the Middle East, rather in the world, that can confront the U.S. and see to it that its evil plots are duly nullified is the Islamic Republic of Iran. Stressing that the country's leadership and statesmen are acting well in that direction, it said, "No one in Iran will be fooled by the tactics of the Great Satan."

"Unfreezing Iran's assets in the U.S. and the releasing of 40 Shiite prisoners in South Lebanon and similar acts will be of no help to Washington," the paper continued. The editorial in conclusion called on Iran to play a bigger role in the post cold war era.

Paper Skeptical of Saudi 'Impressive Statements'

NC0210134990 Paris AFP in English 1256 GMT
2 Oct 90

[Text] Tehran, Oct 2 (AFP)—A paper close to anti-Western hardliners in Iran said Tuesday that Riyadh was expected to make more than just "impressive statements" to mend fences with Iran. Jomhuri-ye Eslami newspaper was referring to a meeting between Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and his Saudi counterpart Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly.

Riyadh agreed in the meeting that it would lift obstacles to visits by Iranian pilgrims to the Muslim holy cities of Mecca and Medina in western Saudi Arabia, the Iranian mission in New York said Monday. The Saudi government "should realize that it cannot change things by making impressive statements only to resume its barbaric policies the next day," Jomhuri-ye Eslami said.

The Persian-language paper said Saudi Arabia "should understand that an issue more urgent than the hajj (pilgrimage) ceremonies for Muslims is the presence of foreign forces in the Islamic holy lands." There were no official details on the New York meeting from either Tehran or Riyadh, but the question of diplomatic ties was reportedly not discussed. It was also not clear if Riyadh was to remove quotas on Muslim pilgrims.

Riyadh severed relations in April 1988 charging Tehran with hostility toward the kingdom. The break followed unrest at the annual pilgrimage to Mecca in July 1987, when more than 400 people were killed, mostly Iranians. Tehran has boycotted the hajj since 1987 in a row over Saudi restrictions on the number of Iranian pilgrims allowed to attend each year.

But amid the recent announcements that Iran was renewing ties with Britain, Mauritania and Tunisia, Mr. Velayati met in New York last week with foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). It was the first meeting between Iran and the GCC—which groups Saudi Arabia with Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates—since the 1979 Islamic revolution.

Tehran has condemned the August 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait but also called for the withdrawal of U.S. troops deployed with other Western and Arab forces in Saudi Arabia since the invasion.

Editorial Calls Syria Close Ally, Reviews Ties

NC0410221890 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL
in English 25 Sep 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Special Affinity"]

[Text] Syria stood beside Iran as one of its closest allies in the region and the world during the eight years of the imposed war.

Skeptics regarded this affinity between the two countries as something transient and ready to disintegrate with the termination of the war between Iran and Iraq. In other words, they thought that the close ties and frequent contacts between the two countries to deliberate on various issues of interests was the outcome of a marriage of convenience ready to come to an end with the establishment of peace in the Persian 'Gulf war'.

Time will prove the falsity of this supposition, as the relationship between the two countries gets even closer. Fact of the matter is that the ties between Tehran and Damascus began and went on gaining momentum not just because of the emergence of an extraordinary situation but because of the cultural and historical commonalities that bring them together. Perhaps, the two countries' common religion, Islam, can be pointed out as the strongest of all the binding agents.

In addition, when studying the Islamic Republic's foreign policy, particularly in regard to the region with its emphasis on the liberation of the Palestinian occupied land, restoring the usurped rights of the Muslim majority in Lebanon, lessening the influence of the foreign imperialist countries over the region, one wouldn't help noticing the similarity between the two countries' foreign policies and the assistance that they can render to each other in realizing their goals.

The Islamic Republic has had an uncompromising stance vis-a-vis the Zionist state, believing in the liberation of occupied land by active means. It has supported the intifada and the force that it has brought into existence against Israel. Syria as a frontline state, Iran believes, can play a determining goal in giving impetus to the movement and the realization of one of its regional foreign policy aspects.

Or take the ongoing struggle in Lebanon. Iran has been an important moral ally of the Muslim struggle in Lebanon and has encouraged the formation of a government in that country in which Muslim majority's rights are respected and realized. In view of the proximity between Lebanon and Syria and the fact that it can play a crucial role in the outcome of the Muslims' struggle in that country, Syria and Iran cannot ignore each other and must work together toward their common goals.

The Islamic Republic since its very inception—though misunderstood and misinterpreted by some circles—has generally advocated maintaining friendly ties with all countries of the region. But the intensity of this friendship has had to vary. Syria, of all the countries of the region, has maintained a foreign policy that has been compatible with that of Iran. There have always been efforts to create schism between the two countries by providing material incentives to Syria to break ties with Iran to isolate it, among other things. This tendency was particularly strong during the war.

One of the region's countries which actively pursued this policy of isolating Iran and presenting it as the threat to the region's security was Saudi Arabia.

In pursuit of this policy, Saudi Arabia repeatedly rejected any mediation offer between itself and Iran during several (P)GCC [(Persian) Gulf Cooperation Council] meets with the invention of relegating Iran to second place despite Iran's inevitable role in the Persian Gulf.

The political relations between Iran and Syria have embarked upon a new chapter of which the Islamic Republic has no intention of underestimating or ignoring that country's role during the years of its 'sacred defense'. Just as Syria cannot have the slightest doubt about Iran's significant role in the resolution of the Persian Gulf and the Lebanese crises.

Editorial Calls for Peaceful Solution to Crisis

NC2809084690 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English
23 Sep 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Peaceful Solution Urgent in Persian Gulf Crisis"]

[Text] U.S. President George Bush warned Iraq last Wednesday that he would take "additional steps" if the U.N. trade embargo and diplomacy failed to force Saddam's troops out of Kuwait.

Bush stressed on the immediate withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and reinstatement of the al-Sabah government in that country as well as the release of all foreign hostages.

The possibility of military conflict in the region has seriously increased with the increase in foreign military presence and the strengthening of the potential Turkish front against Iraq. Moreover, the announcement of Soviet readiness to provide intelligence to the U.S. and the readiness of European countries to provide more military equipment and troops to the Persian Gulf region can give impetus for U.S. military action against Iraq.

But Iraqi President Saddam Husayn was quick to respond to Bush's war of words with his own sabre-rattling. Saddam urged his people to brace for a long war with the U.S. Saddam said on Thursday that he is ready to wage war against the U.S. for years. His information minister said Iraq would respond to any attack by destroying all oilfields in the Persian Gulf.

Already oil prices [are] on the rise to unprecedented levels and European and Japanese stock prices are crashing. If the crisis continues and military conflict takes place, it will certainly endanger certain oil wells in the Persian Gulf, which will bring on an unprecedented oil crisis, and disrupt many of the political and economic equations in Europe and Japan, the most vulnerable oil 'have-nots'.

The United States has stockpiled 600 million barrels of oil strategically and this can dampen somewhat the oil crisis and prevent it from getting out of proportion. But

with respect to the psychological dimensions and deep consequences of the crisis, even the use of these stockpiles will not help solve the crisis.

In addition to Western and advanced industrialized countries, many of the developing countries which import their oil will face severe economic and perhaps political problems. In other words, the system governing international relations and the successful process of change in Europe and the world will be seriously disrupted.

It seems therefore very urgent to find an immediate solution to the Persian Gulf crisis before military confrontation flares up. The only solution can come through negotiations and reaching a peaceful settlement. Decisions and acts of the United Nations which have a stamp of international approval, should also be respected in order to peacefully resolve this great crisis.

The presence of the U.S. in the Persian Gulf has made the situation only more complicated. Any negotiations or mediation by the U.N. should be preceded by an American withdrawal from the region.

RESALAT Reports on 4 Sep Majles Session

PM0210110290 Tehran RESALAT in Persian
5 Sep 90 pp 5, 9

[Text] Report from yesterday's open session of the Majles:

The Majles met in open session yesterday morning chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemiyan. During this session, deputies from Naqadeh, Babol and Sari gave pre-agenda speeches. Then the Majles went into session.

Below is the text of the pre-agenda speeches as well as the discussions:

Now more than ever before the predictions of the imam of the ummah about the incompetence of the Saudi rulers has come to light, said the first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open session of the Majles, Hoseyni Barzanji from the constituency of Naqadeh. He conveyed his greetings to the pure spirit of the great leader, the departed imam of the ummah—may God expedite his passage to paradise—and the great leader of the revolution, Ayatollah Khamane'i. He expressed his condolences to the Islamic ummah on the occasion of the death of the holy wise man, Grand Ayatollah Mar'ashe Najafi.

He considered the plots of the enemies against the young Islamic revolution and commented on the current situation in the region saying: Now we see in the mass media and in the foreign radios they are forced to tell the truth, keeping in mind the current situation the Persian Gulf. This includes the admission by the former French foreign minister who announced openly that several countries of the Security Council met in secret sessions following Iran's major victories in the war and decided seriously to put Iran under pressure through economic

sanctions, giving all kinds of financial and military aid to Iraq and, by broadcasting false news, to try to destroy the revolution. Our departed imam talked about such plots many times. Now, after 12 years, the enemy is furious to see an Islamic Republic which is victorious, with its head held high, with its principles intact, having broken all the plots and tricks of the superpowers. They now admit to having failed in this regard and are now in a trap that they themselves dug in the Persian Gulf.

In another part of his speech he reminded: At this point in time I have something to say to the Islamic ummah in Iran and in other Islamic countries. History showed in less than 12 years in Iran what the imam's leadership meant and what the pure Islam of the Prophet—peace be unto him and his family—was all about. What is its power? What are the goals it is trying to achieve? In order to achieve the goals of the Islam of Mohammad—peace be unto him and his family—and by giving and sacrificing all these martyrs, POW's missing in action and disabled, how did the people come out ahead? They have become proud as a result of the neither West nor East policy. Now we see that all sections of the UN resolution and the details of the Algiers Accord have been accepted by the enemy. The areas of Iran which had been captured have all been liberated. The POW's and those missing in action are returning home in all that glory. These forerunners of resistance were the dedicated students of the late imam. They have played a key role in the longevity of the revolution. These victories are the signs of the pure Islam of the Prophet.

The people's deputy from Naqadeh talked about the specifics of American Islam in Saudi Arabia and said: See how the American Islam of Saudi Arabia is recorded in history: 1. Killing innocent martyr pilgrims upon orders of its master the United States. 2. Showing incompetence in managing the affairs of the two holy mosques, killing more than 1,500 martyr pilgrims in this year's Hajj. 3. The wasting of Muslims' money on immoral pleasures as well as trying to please the world aggressors, the latest disgrace of theirs being the invitation extended to the armed forces of the United States and its allies to Saudi soil, and the control of these symbols of evil in this current century over Saudi Arabia with the excuse of safeguarding their own interests as well as those of the holy mosques. The time has now come for Muslims throughout the world to rise. By staging demonstrations, a general uprising and admitting the incompetence of the Saudi rulers, they should throw out of Saudi Arabia all of them and all of those who are linked to the world aggressors. Will the dignity of the world's Muslims be enough to bear all this boldness against the holy mosques? Is it not the case that the imam's statements with regard to the incompetence of the Saudi Rulers has been realized forever?

He concluded by giving the following notices to the officials:

1. While praising the wise policies of the government and the president with regard to controlling inflation, I ask that the salaries of civil servants be increased in accordance with a formula.

2. Keeping in mind that, during the 10 years of the imposed war and the existence of banned political parties as well as insecurity, especially during the past cruel regime of the Shah, there was no service done in Kordistan, I now ask the government that serves the people to eliminate unemployment and create jobs, especially for the young people of Kurdish populated areas.

3. Notice to the appropriate officials to change the title of my constituency to "town."

4. Notice to the minister of education with regard to the payment of a war-zones' bonus to the area of Oshnaviyeh, considered to be part of the war zone.

5. Notice to the appropriate officials with regard to paying attention to the election of "teacher of the year" and a warning that Hezbollah and truly dedicated people from my constituency have become indifferent and rejected.

Mohsen Nariman, deputy from Babol:

Mr Nariman was the second pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open session of the Majles. In his speech he conveyed his condolences on the occasion of the death of the wise source of emulation of the Shiite world, Grand Ayatollah Mar'ashi Najafi who as far as knowledge, wisdom and piety were concerned, was one of the best in the current era. In this regard he said:

One of the most outstanding points of our Islamic ummah is their love and respect for 'ulema and high-level clergy. Every once in a while because of an incident, there is great recognition of this fact. The most recent example was of our dedicated and appreciative ummah taking part in the funeral services for this great man, showing their love for the respected clergy to the whole world.

Mohsen Nariman, people's deputy from Babol, further said: It is worth warning those involved, writers and speakers, to be careful and safeguard the respect of the sources of emulation. If the respect for the sources of emulation is broken by some who hold pens who do not feel sympathy toward the regime, those who move in front of our departed imam or the respected leader, who raise their voices louder than others, who try and please this or that person, who have engaged in a dangerous game in order to gain a position, those who create dissent in society and those who pretend to be innocent, they will be victims of a fire that they themselves have caused.

In another part of his speech he thanked the government for solving, once and for all the issue of the 1975 Algiers Accord:

I thank the respected government of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani and him in particular for showing special consideration, especially in solving once and for all the

problems between Iran and Iraq which caused the recognition of the 1975 Algiers Accord and the UN resolution 598. The first of its glorious results was the return of the POW's, the loved-ones of our patient and steadfast people, which brought pride and power for our Islamic regime.

He continued: I hope that, regarding the recent events in the Persian Gulf, the invasion of Kuwait, the movement of troops from the criminal United States to the region and aggression against the holy place of the Muslims, which has brought about danger to the rich resources of the region and has caused the Muslims of the area to feel small, and which will bring about military and political control over regional regimes, that they condemn the United States by clearly stating our policies with regard to the Americans, the same way as our respected leader has clearly done in his recent remarks. They should attack the policy of power employed by the Great Satan and they should not allow them to gain a foothold in the region. They should not be afraid as to what will happen to our position in the world. What is certain is that the United States has not come to the region to defend the interests of the Muslims because for years it has been the most important source of tension and blows against the interests of oppressed peoples, especially Muslims.

Mr. Nariman stressed: It is necessary to confront the latest plots with care. This has to be done in such a way so that the dignity and position of the regime and the leaders of the Islamic Republic in the Islamic world, among liberation movements, the oppressed and combatant groups are safeguarded. Others should not use the existing atmosphere to abuse the situation by giving hard and short-lived slogans. They should not become the center or the guardian for the affairs of Muslims. The current crisis should not be used to make people forget their dark past when they were the servants of the aggressors.

The people's deputy from Babol concluded by thanking Dr Kalantari for his considerable effort in opening the important poultry project in Babol. He expressed the hope that the sacrificing brothers of the Crusade would take over this important project so that if God is willing, we shall reach self-sufficiency in this field.

Ezzat-ollah Damadi, people's deputy from Sari:

The Iranian people, because of their incredible intelligence, abundance of experience and their love for the revolution, are capable of rebuilding all the damaged areas as well as economic prosperity.

Mr. Damadi, the last pre-agenda speaker, gave a speech expressing his condolences on the death of the wise source of emulation of the Shiite world, Grand Ayatollah Mar'ashi Najafi. He then welcomed the POW's to the Islamic homeland and said:

What God gave because of patience and resistance of the respected families of the martyrs and the dear POW's of the people, is much more than the past bitterness. The

sweet taste that has been poured into the mouths of the people with the release of the POW's is impossible to describe.

He also thanked the non-stop efforts of the popular president of the Iranian people and his hard-working cabinet.

In another segment of his speech the speaker said: These days the UN Security Council is issuing one resolution after another for economic sanctions against Iraq in a so-called neutral manner. Are they neutral? Even though we condemn the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq and regard this expansionist act as illegal, why is it that these sympathetic people closed their mouths and said nothing about the U.S. aggression against and occupation of Panama, Vietnam, Korea, Cambodia, Laos, Nicaragua, and the whole Persian Gulf as well as the martyrdom of 300 Iranian civilian airline passengers? They even supported them! Is this Security Council, with these methods [words illegible] neutral? We leave the judgement to you. Your decisions with regard to economic sanctions against Iraq, against innocent children and against civilians in that country will give rise to bitter and unpleasant incidents. Do you think it is humane and do you think the UN Security Council decision is proper? The Council's decisions should be the same for powerful and weak countries alike so that rulers of powerful countries do not find excuses for their acts of aggression and think of expansionism. If the Iraqi invasion is wrong, then the U.S. intervention and presence in the Persian Gulf is also wrong. Those regimes which have no roots and no support among their peoples, which rule by the sword, which depend on other nations, should know that those who have come to the Persian Gulf have not come to show their friendship toward you. They are not there to support you. It is because NATO has lost its real value in the Eastern bloc and because it does not have the power that it once had. So it has no choice but to safeguard its power throughout the world, to take energy issues and this source of God-given wealth into its hand, to confront a united Europe, Japan, and a powerful China.

He stressed: The problems of the Persian Gulf must be solved by the regime in the area itself, not by other countries. The United States should know that it will not gain anything in the end from this struggle.

In another section of his speech, Mr. Damadi talked about correcting the composition of the country's administrative system saying: In shaping the management and the administrative organization in the country one must pay attention to superfluous management positions which do similar work which cause sluggishness in the administrative system, cost a lot of money, and confuse management. One should keep in mind the hiring of deserving, knowledgeable, dedicated, trustworthy, and hard-working managers. One should prevent unqualified, undeserving, empty, and narrow-minded people, as well as those who are against the

government's financial policies and programs, from getting into key positions since they would have to be the ones to implement those same policies. The dignified people of Iran believe that reconstruction is a national and revolutionary duty for the Islamic homeland which is up to the general ranks of the people, especially the managers, policy-makers, and planners. By having plenty of intelligence, power, and experience as well as love for the revolution and the regime, with the help of God, they will be able to provide the groundwork for all reconstruction of the damaged areas as well as general economic prosperity.

In another section of his speech, the speaker talked about the importance of agriculture. He said: Long-term and correct investment in agriculture is a perpetual and vital need and is the only way to ensure independence. We must at first spend whatever we have on the conservation of water because water is the mainstay of agriculture.

Building dams made of concrete and soil, good secure canals, and water barriers, as well as improving and restoring land are among the most important tasks. Even though this matter deserves a whole new ministry to itself and because it is so necessary, I draw the government's attention to this important issue. I expect this to be investigated and some suggestions put forward. Insurance for the farmers, health insurance and retirement insurance, giving interest-free loans, providing equipment, strengthening facilities for agriculture, leveling land, mechanizing, guaranteeing the purchase of produce, and giving welfare facilities to the farmers are the most basic ways we can improve agriculture and prevent the farmers from migrating.

He talked about the lack of housing and unemployment and said: If the government can achieve a victory in the area of housing, 70 percent of the unemployment problem can also be solved. Unfortunately the ministry of housing has not done enough in this sphere. As a result of this, the numbers of homeless have increased. The ministry of housing and its body are at present at the level of providing a plan and then changing it at the commission in charge of Article 6. If they move at the current speed, the problem of housing will never be solved.

He talked about the increase in the charges for building permission and the problems this has caused saying: People are complaining in all cities because of the increase in the rates for building permission. Even some of the good mayors have written to me and have told me that the increase in building permission charges in this manner is not right. They have said that the number of houses being built has dropped, the price of houses as well as rents have doubled. Mr. Mayor, you have rounded up all the street vendors—did you ever think what would happen to them since they had been doing that work with the proper license for years? Those who worked in those areas for years have wives and children and they are not capitalists. Some of them have grown old. What are they supposed to do now to earn their

living? These people are among the poor and oppressed in our society. If you really intended to close all the vending stalls, you should first of all have designated other jobs for these people and they should have been guided to do something else. These were the same people who ran the war and the warfronts. These people have given martyrs, wounded, and disabled to Islam and the revolution. These are poor people who support the regime.

The speaker concluded by commenting on the elections for the Council of Experts and encouraged people to take part. He said: I conclude by asking the people to take an active part in the elections for the Council of Experts as before, to choose aware, good, dedicated, just people who believe in the Velayat-e Faqih so that the nation can be safe from factionalism and division. The life of Islam and the revolution and the longevity of the imam's line is up to the Council of Experts.

The full text of the discussions:

The first item on the agenda of yesterday morning's open session of the Majles was continued discussion on the general text of the bill defining the way in which the financial and real estate affairs of universities, institutes of higher learning, and research centers are handled. Following speeches for and against as well as the comments of the reporter of the commission and the government's representative, the bill was put to a general vote and was approved.

The second item on the agenda was three reports from the commission dealing with Article 90 which were read out as follows:

The first report:

Subject: Numbered file 66/3408/25 dealing with a complaint lodged by the residents of the village of Seh-konj and Hojjat-abad near Kerman against the residents of the village of Mahan and the officials of the general Kerman county court.

In this connection the plaintiffs have stated that about four years ago in 1983 [as published] through the action of ill-intentioned people, the water resulting from snow and rain which provided for the agriculture and gardens of the two villages next to Seh-konj and Hojjat-abad, was diverted toward the village of Mahan. A complaint was also sent to the Kerman county court but despite repeated complaints, nothing was done and the necessary investigations were never carried out. This continued situation caused their farms and gardens to dry up so they asked the commission in charge of the constitution's Article 90 to look into the Kerman county court's methods.

A file was started on 23 June 1987 and the commission corresponded with the Kerman court asking them to look into the complaint and to announce the results of actions already taken. Since no reply was received within the legal deadline, the issue was again pursued on 24 August 1987. Finally Mr. Fallah, Kerman's general and Islamic revolution prosecutor, wrote a letter number

4788 dated 24 September 1987 to the commission. Here is the text of the letter: The respected head of the Majles commission in charge of Article 90: This is in reference to letter number 6/26791 dated 29 August 1987 with regard to the issue of Seh-konj and Mahan and the water that is in dispute, which you already know about. The people of Mahan claim their rights and the people of Seh-konj, despite existing documents and papers, do not accept that the people of Mahan have any rights. Rather, they want the direction of the water to go through the middle of their village so that they can block the flow of the water completely. In fact at present, employing bullying methods, they have diverted the water to the middle of Seh-konj and they do not allow one drop to get to Mahan. Commission for Article 90, if you have any power at all, please stop the bullying of the Seh-konj residents.

With thanks, [signed] general and Islamic revolution prosecutor of Kerman, Fallah.

The commission on 17 October 1987 wrote a reply to him once again asking for further investigations and legal procedures and the announcement of the results. The text of the commission's letter is as follows:

The general and Islamic revolution prosecutor of Kerman, peace be with you.

With reference to your letter number 4788 dated 24 September 1987, we state that it is legally up to the public prosecutor of the area to look into differences that arise between legal entities and individuals resident in an area and the crimes that are committed within the jurisdiction of that area. If by using sentences such as "if the commission for Article 90 has any power at all, it would stop the bullying of the Seh-konj residents" that respected person wants to convey the inability and weakness of that legal official in dealing with local complaints and the execution of law and order, please refer the issue to higher legal sources.

That way the proper legal action will be undertaken. In any case, please announce what legal actions, what proper steps, and what decisions have been taken by that court with regard to the complaint lodged by the villages of Seh-konj, Hojjat-abad, and Mahan which has been under investigation at that court since 1985. If a bill of indictment has been issued by that respected official against the residents of Seh-konj in accordance with the documents and papers that rightfully belong to the people of Mahan—as has been mentioned in your letter—with whom was there a confrontation when the time came to carry out the orders? If that were the case, was a higher legal authority asked to step in and ensure that the issued decree or definite sentence was carried out? If in this issue, no decision has been reached because of uncertain reasons, and if no verdict has been announced, it makes no legal or religious sense to regard the residents of Seh-konj as bullies.

Therefore, keeping in mind the above points, it would be appreciated if the usual procedure is kept and if you inform this commission of any developments.

[Signed] Head of the commission for Article 90.

Since a reply was not received from the general and Islamic revolution prosecutor in Kerman within the legal deadline, the issue was pursued in several letters dated 2 January 1988, 15 February 1988, 27 July 1988, and 2 September 1988 but despite my repeated inquiries there was no reply sent to the commission. It is not clear whether or not he has undertaken any action to resolve the dispute or look into the case, or if with that same reply, he has in his legal position, washed his hands of the responsibility and in reality has refused to deal with the case. Keeping in mind the above matters and in accordance with a decision reached in a general meeting of the commission for Article 90 held on 13 May 1990, Mr. Fallah, the general and Islamic revolution prosecutor of Kerman, was regarded as having committed a wrong. We hereby announce his wrongdoing to the Majles deputies and to the general public.

[Signed] (Seyyed Fakhreddin Musavi Naneh-karan) head of the commission for Article 90 of the Constitution.

The second report:

Subject of the complaint: Numbered file 68-92/25.

Complaint: 'Ali Akbar Mahdian, Musa Hoseyni.

Plaintiff: The mayor of Quchak near Varamin and deputy in charge of welfare and technical matters at the Tehran governor general's office.

Subject of the complaint: The above plaintiffs are the owners of a plaster company called Peyman in Qarchak near Varamin with 30 years' experience. During the project to widen the road between Rey and Varamin by the ministry of roads and transportation, which was undertaken in accordance with minutes of the meeting number 433 dated 3 March 1983, the property and land of the aforementioned owners was damaged. In accordance with an agreement with the local governor's office and the governor of Shahr-e Rey the aforementioned owners started building on the remainder of their land. The Varamin municipality declared that this building was done without permission. In accordance with footnotes of Article 100 of the laws governing municipalities, they summoned the owners to court number two at Varamin and asked for them to be prosecuted.

Branch number 4 of the second penal court at Varamin ordered the owners to pay a fine in reply to order number 60 dated 2 June 1986. The wrongdoers bowed to the court's decision and paid their fines.

The local mayor accepted the court's verdict based on the evidence presented and the court's ruling became final. Following the court's verdict the plaintiffs asked the local municipality to issue them with a certificate to say that their building work was complete and another permit to allow them to start commercial activity. The municipality gave no reply to the plaintiffs and did nothing toward issuing the certificate indicating the end

of building work or a permit to start commercial activity. Finally, after going through the legal channels and taking their complaint to the appropriate channels and not getting anywhere, the plaintiffs contacted the commission for Article 90 to voice their complaint.

The commission asked both plaintiffs to appear so as to hear their comments. Their papers were brought forth, the claims from both sides were heard, research done into the issue and the whole case file which was at the fourth branch of the Varamin penal court was studied, as were the documents that were in the hands of the municipality and other appropriate officials. The case was discussed in a general meeting of the commission in charge of Article 90 held on 6 May 1990 and there was a majority vote declaring that the local mayor and other appropriate officials at the Tehran governor general's office had committed wrongdoings with regard to the points raised below:

1. When a municipality orders construction work to be stopped at a site in accordance with footnote one of Article 100 dealing with municipal laws, that municipality has the duty to inform the commission in charge of Article 100 of the municipal laws or the local penal court within one week of the order being issued. Documents and papers handed to the commission in charge of Article 90 by the local mayor indicate that the local municipality ordered the construction work of the owners to be stopped in letter number 829 dated 17 April 1985 which was issued through the Qarchak police station. But according to the violation form dated 28 May 1986, the issue of the violation was announced to the second branch of the penal court on 28 May 1986. This means that the local mayor has not carried out the orders that have been mentioned in footnote 1 of Article 100, thereby committing a violation.

2. After the issue of the owners' building violations was investigated in the second branch of the penal court and after a legal verdict was issued, in accordance with the footnotes of Article 100, the usual procedure in the courts dictates that in this case the municipality drop all charges against the owners and see to their requests, unless the municipality disagrees with the court's verdict and asks for a reconsideration of the case, or if the owners have in the meantime committed another violation on the building site.

According to the documents that exist in the file, the violation form dated 28 May 1986, the complaint of the owners, comments of the two parties at the meeting of the commission in charge of Article 90 and their clear admissions, the local mayor accepted the court's verdict and did not ask for a reconsideration. The owners in the meantime had not committed a fresh violation so the court's verdict was final and the case closed. In such cases the municipality has the duty, after the court's verdict has been pronounced, to deal with the requests of the owners. In this case this was the issuing of a certificate to say that the building work was complete and a permit to start commercial activity. Keeping in mind the

above facts and the admission of the mayor of Qarchak during the commission's meeting, the mayor took no steps to issue a certificate to indicate the end of construction work and the beginning of commercial activity, thereby committing a violation.

In reality, despite accepting the court's verdict, the mayor committed a deliberate violation in executing the court's verdict leaving the owners in limbo for several years.

In consideration of the above-mentioned facts and the decision reached at the end of a general meeting of the commission in charge of Article 90 which was held on 6 May 1990, the violations of Mr. 'Ata'i, the mayor of Qarchak near Varamin, and Mr. Jahangiri, deputy in charge of technical and welfare issues at the Tehran governor general's office, are absolutely certain. The issue is now being announced to the people of Iran in accordance with the law governing the manner in which the commission for Article 90 makes its reports, which was passed by the Majles on 24 November 1987, and in accordance with item 8 of the law which dictates how the commission's rulings are to be carried out. That law was passed by the Majles 14 November 1984.

In the meantime, in accordance with footnote 5 of the law which dictates how the rulings of the commission for Article 90 should be carried out—passed by the Majles on 14 November 1986, further investigations into the violations committed by the afore mentioned parties have been handed over to the judicial authorities.

The third report:

Subject of the report Numbered file 663402/25 with regard to the complaint lodged by Messrs. Amir Hoseyn Shari'atj-zadeh and Mohammad Naser Moshaver against the Foundation of the Oppressed and Sacrificers [disabled].

On 25 February 1987 Messrs. Amir Hoseyn Shari'at-zadeh and Mohammad Naser Moshaver, shareholders in the clothing firm of Khazar, handed a complaint to the commission stating that the foundation of the Oppressed had taken steps to seize the Khazar clothing firm and all the shares of its shareholders by force. Despite an order issued by the judicial authorities asking for the factory to be handed over to the shareholders, the foundation refused to acknowledge the order. The background of a search, activity, and the confiscation of the factory exist in document form in the file. The present Khazar company started its activity in 1978, producing clothing. The number of shareholders in the company in 1979 was 31, five of whom left the country after the revolution. Their shares were confiscated and placed at the disposal of the Foundation of the Oppressed. This is how the Foundation became a shareholder in the company. On 14 February 1980, in accordance with an agreement reached by the shareholders, the Foundation took over the management and responsibility for the company. On 28 April 1981 all the property of the shareholders was confiscated on behalf of the prosecutor at the Amol

Islamic revolution court. In both orders issued by the prosecutor, the names of the 31 shareholders are based on the list of shareholders dated 2 June 1979. In 1985 the religious judge of the Islamic revolution court stationed at the Foundation of the Oppressed issued a court order number 251/1460 dated 3 August 1985. Keeping in mind the handing over of 800 out of 950 shares belonging to Messrs. Amir Hoseyn Shari'at-zadeh and Moshaver, they were released from custody and there was an order to lift the confiscation order placed over the remaining 150 shares and other shares. Then they said that as of this date the Foundation has done nothing about handing them their shares according to the list of shareholders dated 2 June 1979. On the other hand the Foundation claims that the list of shareholders dated 16 July 1978 is the one that the Foundation regards as valid to which the court had not paid any attention.

After receiving the complaint, the commission studied the file and first of all photocopied the complaint and sent it to the then chief of the Foundation with letter number 66-3402/25 dated 31 January 1988, asking the Foundation to investigate the issue and take formal action in accordance with the court's ruling. In letter number 100/25309/1/14939, dated 22 February 1988, the Foundation sent a reply a summary of which is as follows:

Even though the revolution court stationed at the Foundation gave the order to release shares belonging to Messrs. Shari'at-zadeh, Moshaver, and their partners, the revolution court in Amol in letter number 70441 dated 30 December 1985, five months after the first verdict of the revolution court in the Foundation had issued its verdict ordered that the previous owners of the company be barred from entry into the company. Because the answers received by the plaintiffs were not convincing and because of their repeated complaints, the commission in letter number 66-3402/250 dated 10 January 1988 asked the then chief of the Foundation Mr. Mazaheri to carry out the court's verdict and to take action in accordance with the law. The reply received was not convincing so the commission once again wrote another letter dated 11 March 1988 asking the then chief of the Foundation to carry out the court's orders. The Foundation sent an unacceptable letter number A/227/195/100/787 dated 12 April 1989. The commission on 28 April 1988 asked for the court's verdict to be carried out and sent at the same time a copy of this letter to the Supreme Judicial Council and the revolution court in Tehran. In letter number A227/1301 dated 15 June 1988 the Foundation announced that because the minutes of the meeting held at the company with regard to the shareholders on 2 June 1979 were not clear it was still investigating the issue. On 6 July 1988 the commission wrote to the Foundation's legal council and sent them two photocopies of minutes dated 2 June 1979 and 27 May 1980 signed by the manager appointed from the Foundation at the Khazar clothing company. These indicate that the shares of some shareholders, including those of the plaintiffs were held to be legal, so the

Foundation was asked to carry out the court's orders. The foundation in letter number 100/7051 dated 16 July 1988 sent a package declaring that it regarded the actions and the verdicts issued by the Amol revolution court and the revolution court stationed at the Foundation as illogical—based on documents and minutes of the meeting on 2 June 1979—and said they were against the law.

In pursuing this matter the commission had no choice but to ask the prosecutor general to look into the case on 27 July 1988. Since a legal reply was not received, the commission on 25 October 1988 sent a telegram to Mr. Mazaheri for him or his legal representative to appear before the commission. On 1 November 1988 the meeting was held with representatives from the Foundation of the Oppressed at the offices of the commission and the results of the meeting were announced to Mr. Mazaheri in letter number 66-3402/250 dated 12 November 1988. He was asked to carry out the legal procedures with regard to the handing over the company's shares. On 31 December 1988 and 3 January 1989 since there was no reply, once again the issue was pursued in writing and on 7 January 1989 letter number 1/18667 dated 5 January 1989 was received from Mr. Mazaheri, the original of which was addressed to the religious judge and the 10th branch of the Tehran revolution court, asking the judge to issue a revised version of the original verdict issued by the revolution court stationed at the Foundation.

Because of the Foundation's reluctance to carry out the verdict of the court, the commission's opinion was conveyed in a telegram number 66-3402/250 dated 19 April 1989 asking the then chief of the Foundation Mr. Baqeriyani to appear at the commission. Mr. Taqi Hashemi appeared at the session and after long discussions he accepted the fact that the actions of the Foundations thus far had been against the law. If the Foundation wished to complain about the verdict of the revolution court stationed at the Foundation, it had to pursue the subject with the prosecutor general. The result of the meeting was also announced to Mr. Baqeriyani and it was declared that if he refused to carry out the orders of the court and the views of the commission, in accordance with the regulations, he would be found to be breaking the law. In reply to the Foundation's deputy in charge of legal and parliamentary affairs in letter number 9/11/1341 dated 23 May 1989 announced that the file of Khazar clothing company was being handled at the 10th branch of the 41st principal court of Tehran and asked that the case not be pursued any further. The commission on 27 June 1989 announced that this reply was illogical and asked Mr. Baqeriyani to carry out the court's verdict in accordance with the law. Until 22 October 1989 there was no reply and because the management of the Foundation changed, there was no choice but to communicate with Mr. Rafiq-dust. Because there was no reply the case was again discussed at the commission's meeting on 21 January 1990 and it was decided that Mr. Rafiq-dust be asked for the last time to appear at the

commission so that perhaps the case could have a legal outcome. Therefore in telex number 216050 dated 20 February 1990 Mr. Rafiq-dust was invited to attend the commission meeting on 25 February 1990. But the then responsible chief at the Foundation paid no attention to this invitation of the commission and neither him nor his representative attended the meeting. Therefore, keeping all this in mind, the lengthy correspondence and the investigations carried out, the violation committed by the then officials of the Foundation of the Oppressed, as well as the current head of the Foundation—because he has not given a reply and because of his reluctance to carry out the law—is certain. This is hereby announced through the microphones of the respected Majles in accordance with the law dealing with the manner in which reports are issued by the commission in charge of Article 90, passed by the Majles on 24 November 1987 and Article 8 of the law dealing with the manner in which Article 90 is carried out, which was passed by the Majles 16 November 1986, as well as item 5 of the internal charter of the commission passed in a general meeting on 3 June 1988. The file has now been handed over to the appropriate court for a final decision.

A report from RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent indicates:

The third item on the agenda was the selection of two Majles deputies to carry out item 5 of the plan in support of the Palestinian people's revolution. Messrs. Astaneh and Mohtashami were chosen for membership in the committee, which is mentioned in item 5 of the law that deals with support for the Palestinian people's revolution.

The fourth item on the agenda was the selection of one deputy to oversee the press. Mr. Yadollah Eslami was chosen for membership in the commission in charge of item 10 of the press laws.

The last item on the Majles agenda at yesterday's open session was a report from the energy commission with regard to rejecting a plan that would let irrigation waters lie stagnant. Continued discussion on this was postponed to a later open session of the Majles.

***Iranian Land Still Occupied by Iraq Described**

90AS0464A London KEYHAN in Persian 13 Sep 90 p 2

[Text] Twenty square kilometers of Iranian territory which Iraq still occupies and refuses to evacuate are located at Shalamcheh, Kushk, and Sharhani in the south, the Mehran border heights in Mianeh-Marz, the Sumar boarder heights, and the mountain region north of Qasr-e Shirin.

The deputy for intelligence of the Armed Forces Headquarters who made the announcement in an interview with the Pars Press Agency mentioned that, for example, in some areas Iraqi forces have remained in Iranian territory which is three to four kilometer long and 100 meters deep. He attributed the continued presence of the Iraqi forces on Iranian territory to the destruction of

boarder demarcation posts which has made the boarder line unclear. He asserted that the situation will be resolved with the presence of the main United Nations observer force.

The deputy for intelligence of the Armed Forces Headquarters said: The areas which were supposed to be evacuated by the Iraqi forces, based on the 1975 treaty, were 2,660 square kilometers of which, based on this treaty, 600 square kilometers, including Meymak, shall remain under their control.

This person's assertions concerning the 600 kilometers in the Meymak region which will remain under Iraqi control brings up this concern as to whether or not the Islamic Republic regime officials possess the technical awareness and knowledge which is required for correct and complete implementation of the 1975 Algiers Treaty concerning the land borders.

In regard to the demarcation of the boarder line and installation of boarder signs, this person said: The delegation to supervise the withdrawal of the forces and the installation of boarder signs has been formed. It is composed of military forces of the Guard Corps and Army, members of the legal department of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, and experts from the Army mapping agency. After the complete withdrawal of the Iraqi forces and clearing of the minefields—with the cooperation of the Iraqi delegation—the precise location of boarder posts will be determined and they will be installed.

Concerning the status of the forces belonging to both sides along the boarder strip in the future, the same person said: A number of forces from both sides will be stationed five kilometers from the boarder posts.

Supervision of the Iranian delegation to observe the withdrawal and installation of boarder signs will be tasked to replacements of the Khatam ol-Anbia engineering unit which is part the Guard Corps and unfamiliar with such issues.

***Hijacked Plane Returned After Four Years**

90AS0464C London KEYHAN in Persian 13 Sep 90 p 2

[Text] A plane belonging to the Aseman Aviation Company which was hijacked to Baghdad four years ago while on a domestic flight was returned to Iran last Wednesday.

During the eight-year war with Iraq, three Iranian passenger planes were hijacked and taken to Iraq. The three jetliners are a Falcon, an Airbus, and a Boeing 727.

***Arak-Hamedan Oil Pipeline Operational**

90AS0464B London KEYHAN in Persian 13 Sep 90 p 2

[Text] The 183 kilometer long Arak-Hamedan oil pipeline has become operational. This project was implemented at the cost of over 1 billion and 800 million rials.

It is expected that, by utilization of this pipeline and the newly built oil storage tanks, shortages of kerosene and heating fuel during the long winter months in Hamedan will be alleviated.

***Scattered Demonstrations Reported in Tehran**

90AS0464D London KEYHAN in Persian 13 Sep 90 p 2

[Text] The Society of Friends of Iran announced last Monday that scattered demonstration took place in Tehran during the previous week and small groups of people chanted slogans for the establishment of freedom in Iran.

Of the scattered demonstrations in opposition to the regime, the most serious one took place in front of the Red Crescent Society headquarters. Relatives of some of the MIA's from the war with Iraq had gathered there to get information about the fate of their loved ones.

The statement issued by the Society of Friends of Iran indicated that during these demonstrations the message and pictures of Reza Pahlavi, the Iranian monarch, were widely distributed in Tehran.

***Campaigns Against Investment Companies Explained**

90AS0462M London KEYHAN in Persian
20 Sep 90 p 12

[Text] The closure of many so-called limited partnerships, the arrest of some of the directors of these companies, and the flight abroad by some directors to avoid probable arrest have brought with them great financial difficulties for small and medium-size investors. The limited partnerships, which make huge profits from the economic ills in Iran today, specifically the sharp rise in land and housing prices and the continuous rise in foreign exchange rates, gave some of these profits to depositors who had deposited their capital in these companies.

The Tehran public prosecutor, competing with Hashemi-Rafsanjani's faction, has entered the battle against the limited partnership companies and has announced that there are 25,000 of these depositors with more than 12 billion tomans (this figure is for Tehran alone).

Depositors obtained their living expenses from annual rates of return between 30 and 40 percent, but with the disruption of the limited partnership companies, not only do the depositors no longer receive profits, their principal is also unrecoverable.

Estimates not far from the truth put the number of depositors in limited partnership companies at about 100,000 with deposits totaling more than 40 billion tomans.

Informed sources in Iran say that the activities of most of the so-called limited partnership companies, although they made huge profits through speculation and profiteering, were neither in violation of existing laws nor of

religious criteria. Many owners of limited partnership companies were prominent merchants who, in carrying out their commitments to depositors, did not commit crimes or violations that could be prosecuted by the courts.

Observers in Iran see that fight against the limited partnership companies as part of the power struggle between the competing factions in the ruling circles in Iran. The remark by Mohammad Hoseyn 'Adeli, chief of the Central Bank, stating that a superficial or one-pointed struggle with inflation will solve nothing, and that instead the volume of production must be increased and that capital must be guided to production by creating a secure environment, is an indication of this, because in an unhealthy economy it is impossible to guide investment into sound economic activity.

***Mostaz'afan Foundation Defends Decisions**

90AS0462N London KEYHAN in Persian 20 Sep 90 p 4

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] The text of the letter from the Mostaz'afan Foundation [Foundation for the Self-Sacrificing Devotees] of New York is as follows:

Date: 6 Shahrivar, 1369 [28 August 1990]

Number 980/R

In the name of the Almighty

To the respected publication, London KEYHAN:

In issue 315 dated 25 Mordad 1369 [16 August 1990] on page two of that publication an article with very large headlines was printed called "Who in America Obtains Funds from the Mostaz'afan Foundation?" which is contrary to the truth and distorts the cultural activities of the Mostaz'afan Foundation of New York. In general, the Mostaz'afan Foundation of New York is a non-profit, public interest cultural organization. When it was founded in 1973 as the Pahlavi Foundation, it gave financial assistance to Iranian students in America, and it still does this. This program, which conforms to the charter, the measures, and the orders of the Internal Revenue Service, is one of the main activities of this foundation. It is for this purpose that the foundation, in accordance with the regulations and rules of the Internal Revenue Service, gives student loans for tuition and monthly financial aid to a number of Iranian students studying at reputable universities. Under the law, for all students who in this way obtain financial aid, the foundation must report to the American Internal Revenue Service their name, social security number, address, amount of aid received, and likely financial commitments from the foundation to the students, and this must be registered as a matter of public record.

In this way obtaining and printing the names of students receiving aid from the Mostaz'afan Foundation from American officials, and not from a reliable source, as was stated in that publication, was not so hard to do. Moreover, this "reliable source" probably changed the figures for abusive purposes, and they differ from the original documents. Here we must mention several points:

First, financial aid paid to talented Iranian students to form educated and specialist cadres for the country requires that these students study in high-level universities in fields that are needed, especially in the various medical fields, and naturally the university tuition of these students is generally very high. It would therefore have been appropriate if the respected author of the article had researched without a motive to learn how much the tuition is for students now studying at high-level American universities, especially in medical and affiliated fields, and had he done this perhaps he would have dealt with the matter differently.

Secondly, of all the students specifically mentioned in the article, two are studying dentistry. Clearly, in view of the high tuition at those universities, and in view of the four-year program length, the amount of money paid to them during their period of study is a considerable sum. Of course, it is necessary to mention that the first part of the sums paid goes to the Internal Revenue Service, otherwise the basic figure paid to the students might be more or less.

Third, student Mohammad Baqer Ghobari-Bonab borrowed only \$4,817.25 from this foundation, not the \$50,000 given in the list. Concerning Mohammad "Mahmud" Raja'i-Khorasani, said to be the brother of Raja'i-Khorasani (referring to Dr. Raja'i-Khorasani, the Islamic Republic of Iran's former ambassador to the United Nations), we must inform you that there is no student receiving a loan under that name. However, a student named Mohsen Raja'i-Khorasani has taken a loan from this foundation. At the time he applied for the loan he was 20 years old and a student of dentistry at a reputable American university called New York University, with a very good academic record. In view of his age, his studies, his field of study, and the university where he is studying, in every way he was deserving of a student loan, and the independent committee, which has the responsibility of designating and selecting loan recipients in accordance with Internal Revenue Service regulations, announced his qualification to receive the loan in view of his high academic standing and the nation's need for dentists. You will agree that these selections must be made independently of family and personal connections and within the framework of law, and in this regard also action was taken. Moreover, in addition to the \$25,000 paid to him, \$22,464.38 was paid directly to the university as tuition, just as in all cases, student tuition is paid directly to the university.

In any case, it is fortunate that our dear compatriots learn of one of the cultural activities of this foundation through this article, despite its tendentious tone and its altered figures, and of course it is a source of pride that this foundation is working for the nation's academic and cultural growth by granting loans to qualified students, without considering relationships. To learn more about the cultural activities of this foundation, our dear Iranian compatriots may contact us directly.

Mostaz'afan Foundation of New York, Public Relations Office.

***Paper Discusses Fall of Montazeri**

90AS0422 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian
6, 7 Aug 90

[Parts two and three of a series of articles entitled "The Mehdi Hashemi Incident as a Touchstone"; Part two is entitled "Evaluating the Competence of Mr. Montazeri in Political Issues," by Baqer 'Alavi and part three is entitled "Evaluation of Mr. Montazeri's Belief in the Directives of the Religious Guardian"; The first part of these serialized articles appeared under the title of "Reyshahri's Political Memoir Discusses Fall of Montazeri" on 30 August]

[6 Aug p 10]

[Text] The Mehdi Hashemi incident, despite all its superficial bitter characteristics, was a follow-up to a collection of crimes perpetrated and at a particular point in the history of the Islamic revolution of Iran revealed and concluded as a case. But, in fact, it was and is like a touchstone in evaluating truth and falsehood and distinguishing right from wrong, the examination of the various angles of which can be instructive.

The above-mentioned incident inflicted great harm on the revolution, Islam, and the theological centers and imposed immeasurable suffering on the confident spirit of the pious servant of God. Ultimately, it resulted in the dismissal of Mr. Montazeri from the position of deputy leader of the revolution as well as stripping him of all social and political dignity and credibility. And this was all completely justifiable. Here we shall review the highlights of how Mr. Montazeri dealt with the Mehdi Hashemi incident and the process of his own dismissal.

1. After being elected by the Assembly of Experts to succeed the leader in 1362 [21 March 1983-20 March 1984], Mr. Montazeri was indirectly addressed in Imam Khomeyni's message to the Assembly of Experts, which stated, "May God help you in the selection of your companions," but he did not heed the message.

2. At the end of 1364 [March 1986], he responded to the statements of the minister of information at the time, who had told him: "Relations of Mehdi Hashemi and his colleagues with your household, given that all officials, friends, and political lines loyal to the revolution oppose it, may not be quite in your best interest. The existing political factions..., even Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, are not optimistic about this connection."

He responded: "They all talk nonsense. I trust him. I have known him since childhood. We have supped together, and he was a friend of our Mohammad. To tell you the truth, I help them buy arms." In conclusion, he told the minister of information at the time: "You should not doubt him either; trust him." Then, when in

early 1365 [spring of 1986], when the documents surfaced concerning the decisive involvement of Mehdi Hashemi in the killing of the late Shamsabadi, his cooperation with SAVAK and his letters to the chief of SAVAK in Esfahan were shown to him, he simply disregarded the matter with the justification that: "He was probably forced to cooperate under pressure."

3. In response to the oral message of Imam Khomeyni (four months prior to the arrest of Mehdi Hashemi), which was sent to him through the honorable Friday imam of Esfahan stating that, "I have invested in you. If you see that the clerics do not oppose you, it is because of me. If I am gone one day, they shall oppose you. Hence, you should not have any weaknesses. You must denounce your relationship with Mehdi Hashemi, say that you do not endorse his actions, and should prohibit him from visiting your home," this religious jurist says coolly: "Well, let us see what happens."

4. When one of the team houses connected with Mehdi Hashemi was discovered and some of their crimes and violations became evident, given that all manner of explosives, opium, weapons, and equipment for forging government secret documents as well as their organizational chart was found, in which "prevention of the deviation of the Islamic government of Iran" and "armed uprising against any regime and government which is not the authentic line of Islam under any name, even Muslim" was stated as one of their goals, this religious person, explaining the duties of the information unit of the above-mentioned organization, wrote:

"The information and investigation unit is responsible to identify all the agents of counterrevolutionary and international spies, to keep a profile on each and to report them to the proper authorities. If there are no documents on them available and it is not certain that they are dangerous, it must kidnap them and execute them. It must carefully investigate all the relations of the ruling officials so that if, God forbid, there is any deviation, they are prevented." Yes, when the above-mentioned matters were revealed to this individual, who is familiar with religious law and precepts of justice and piety (Mr. Montazeri), devoid of all principles of faith and practical piety, he stated: "In connection with the evacuation of the above-mentioned house and the arrest of the person in charge, there has been factionalism, because three months earlier they had spoken to me about sending Seyyed Mehdi into exile and since they realized that it did not work, now they have chosen this method." He added naively: "The administration of the movement is necessary in order to export the revolution, and in order to manage the movements, it is necessary to have weapons, explosives, and forgery. I have known about it generally, and if the Imam imposes pressure on me in this regard, I shall separate my way from his." (Quoted from the letter of Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri to Imam Khomeyni on 30 September 1986).

5. In response to the good-will message of the revered leader of the Islamic revolution on 4 October 1986,

saying, "'Your' dignity, which must be preserved, is being threatened. This important threat is from Mr. Mehdi Hashemi.... I emphasize that you should distance yourself from Seyyed Mehdi," reading parts of the message for Mehdi Hashemi, he states: "The imam has disturbed my sleep with his letter, so I have also written a letter to the imam to disturb his sleep." In a letter dated 9 October 1986, written to disturb the imam's sleep—who, despite the uninformed imagination of the simpletons, was always awake and involved in disturbing the sleep of the oppressors and bullies of the world—he wrote in defense of Mehdi Hashemi: "I have known Seyyed Mehdi since childhood; he came to my teaching sessions with the late Mohammad. His father was my teacher and his brother is my son-in-law. I know all about him. He is a man who is faithful to Islam and the revolution and even to your excellency. He is talented and perceptive. He speaks well and writes well. In wisdom, initiative, and management, he is much better than the head of the Guard Corps and the minister of information, even with all their distinguished qualities. In commitment and piety as well, he is not inferior to them."

6. When Mehdi Hashemi was arrested upon the instructions and emphatic repeated statement of Imam Khomeyni after numerous facts were revealed, in accordance with his previous declaration that "If the imam puts pressure on me, I shall separate my way from his," he engaged in strikes and separation from the Islamic Republic regime and despite the vast advantages taken by the media of global oppressors, foreign radios, and the rubbish newspapers of domestic deviants who under the pretext of this issue stormed the regime, the revolution and the leader with insults and slander, and even despite the imam's face-to-face request to him in the meeting of the chiefs of the branches and the prime minister to stop his strike against the regime, he still continued his obstinacy and dismissed the matter by saying "God will not burden one with more than one's capacity," as if opposing the regime and the religious guardian and providing foreigners with the means to attack the revolution were his divine duty, while responding positively to the sincere statements of the true deputy of the Imam of the Age is beyond his abilities.

7. When the bodies of three kidnap victims from Qahdarian were discovered and shown on television, simultaneous with the media broadcast of the confessions of Mehdi Hashemi and two of his allies about how the kidnapping and killing of these persons was done and how at least two of them were innocent, instead of condemning the murderers and consoling the victims, this Islamic scholar said: "By doing this, you have acquitted them (the victims). Who were they anyway?" (Paraphrased)

8. And finally, when Mehdi Hashemi was condemned to death on the ruling of the religious magistrate of the special court for the clerics as belligerent and corrupt for "organizing and leading numerous terrorist groups; kidnapping, prior to and after the revolution; efforts to

establish and manage an independent army in Lenjan-e Sofla and providing provisions and arms for it; creating a fight with the Islamic revolution committee of the region which resulted in the killing and wounding of dozens of people; taking and concealing more than 280 weapons, ammunition² and a great deal of property from the Guard Corps; creating an influence network in various organizations and offices; stealing classified documents and obtaining information and intelligence; deceiving the young to organize a group of extremist individuals who had problems and were dismissed from organizations and institutions of the Islamic revolution; attempting to weaken the leader and deputy leader of the revolution and create conflict and disunity among officials; creating suspicion and skepticism towards officials and the regime of the Islamic Republic by publishing lies and slander in the form of communiques and unnamed secret newspapers with forged names and signatures; opposition to and actions against the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic which resulted in the disruption of relations with foreign countries, resulting in hundreds being killed in military skirmishes, on the evening when the ruling was to be carried out (28 August 1987, he wrote a note to the imam and in it declared: Whatever Seyyed Mehdi was and has become, after all he fought for Islam, the revolution and the Imam for 20 years.... He is neither a heathen, nor belligerent, nor corrupt. After all, he fully believes in the revolution and Islam, even if he is mistaken in his ways and he is.... His execution will be a great victory for the enemies and those who are looking for something to use against us." At the end, in a threatening tone, he wrote: "Executions and bloodshed will eventually result in bad feelings and bad blood."³

Yes, how can such a person, who, as the above process alone indicates, reflects his positions, actions, and understanding about the events or the political world, which was not very complex, be involved in international relations on the domestic scene and be the policy maker of the Islamic Republic regime in a world full of conspiracies and deception?

Such an individual essentially lacks intellectual ability, a keen mind and depth of thinking in political matters. Hence, a group of simple-minded people—like himself—say, "What the imam prohibited Mr. Montazeri from doing was to take over the leadership of the regime of the Islamic Republic and not any sort of involvement or expression of opinion in political affairs." And some of these simpletons with ill intentions add, "In a society where everyone has a right to express his opinion and be involved in politics, why should a religious jurist not be involved in political matters?" These individuals should be told that firstly, nearly everyone has a better grasp of political issues than this religious jurist. Secondly, involvement in political affairs and expressions of opinion about them stem from the particular position of the person and means something special. Naturally, the reentry of Mr. Montazeri into the political scene is associated with the idea of the former deputy leader and

the person who did thus and so with the late leader of the revolution and not the expression of opinion by one individual among many. Thirdly, who can ignore the present conspiracies and treason of some of his supporters in taking advantage of his political position against the Islamic Republic regime and its sincere and serving officials?

Yes, considering the above issues, there remains no room for any sound-minded human being to say, "Mr. Montazeri's support for Mehdi Hashemi was a mistake which happened and must not be pursued." Rather, on the contrary, as the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran and late leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni, said in his message to the representatives of the Majles on 16 May 1989, "God willing, the brothers and sisters shall know about this matter more clearly in the future." This matter, which must be thoroughly discussed in order to clarify Mr. Montazeri's handling of the issue of Mehdi Hashemi, his hundreds of other improper positions, which will need to be addressed at another time, aside, was not only a touchstone for evaluating his competence in terms of political issues, but will also clarify many other issues. With the help of God, we shall deal with them in future articles.

Notes:

1. Now, after the passage of four years from that event, Mr. Montazeri may want to consider responding to some of the following questions:

A. After the ratification of the bylaws of the Guard Corps in the Majles and the omission of the Movements Unit from the Guard Corps organization, based on what religious or legal judgment did you disregard the ratification about Mehdi Hashemi and, under the pretext of your own representative in the movements, allow all documents, equipment, weapons, and all the resources of the Movements Unit to be transferred by Mehdi Hashemi and his supporters to whatever centers they wanted?

B. Your decree appointing Mr. Mehdi Hashemi as your representative states: "It is religiously necessary that you continue your work in full cooperation with the related institutions until the final decision is made by the Majles."

Now, the question is, which one of the illegal and illegitimate actions of Mr. Mehdi Hashemi as your representative for the movements affairs was in coordination with the concerned institutions, whereas in addition to the evidence in the case, Mehdi Hashemi also confessed that they were intentionally trying to act contrary to the wishes of the officials?

C. If hundreds of weapons of various kinds were under your supervision in connection with the movements, why was each group skillfully and especially hidden and kept in the basements of safe houses and various gardens in Qahdarijan and other places?

D. With all of these explosives, poisons, and weapons in addition to the ammunition, which counterrevolutionary and international spy was eliminated, except for Rabbani-Amlashiha and the sons of Heshmat, causing the fights which resulted in the killing and wounding of more than 70 members of the Guard Corps, the komiteh, and the people of Qahdarijan as well as the assassination of Amir 'Abbas Bahraynian and Aqeliha and the start and escalation of the internal war among the Shiites of Afghanistan, the issue of the Kurds in Turkey and the Bahrain issue?

E. What is the relationship between the movements and the stealing and keeping of secret government and Ministry of Information documents?

F. What is the relation between the Movements Unit and the content of the charter of Mehdi Hashemi's organization concerning the armed prevention of deviations in the Islamic government of Iran and its officials by kidnapping and killing?

G. In defense of a well-known element who dined with you, was with your Mohammad, and whose brother is your son-in-law, you are prepared to disregard all the religious and legal principles and precepts and even stand up to the Imam and the regime and announce that "if the Imam puts pressure on me, I shall separate my way from his." How did you dare to make speeches, with the masses of people coming to see you because of their love for the imam, the revolution and the regime, and complain about breaking laws and regulations and ultimately instruct the officials to observe piety and the precepts of government?

In conclusion, we shall quote a portion of Mehdi Hashemi's confessions in regard to the motives behind their collecting and keeping weapons, which will perhaps help Mr. Montazeri to find the answer to the above questions: "At the height of factionalism in regard to the future leadership, I came to believe that after the Imam, there would be civil war in the country, as in Lebanon. One of my motives in stockpiling arms was to be able to put up resistance and end the conflict under such circumstances. That was my intention. Based on this deviant belief, I felt it permissible to expose movements and officials who were in opposition to my line, and we published those heinous announcements in order for our rivals to be eliminated from the scene. For this reason, I was prepared to take advantage of the trust of the revered religious jurist and his house to advance my own personal goals, so that all aspects of his house would be under our supervision."

2. The above statistics are from the text of the bill of indictment of Mehdi Hashemi. According to his confessions in the court, the stolen weapons were much greater in volume. In the same session, the place of hundreds of other weapons was revealed.

3. The letter referred to was written nine months and 12 days earlier (15 December 1986). After the first tape of the interview and confessions of Mehdi Hashemi was

broadcast on the Islamic Republic television, showing only a small portion of the crimes of these counterrevolutionary and deviant elements and causing public outcries of anger and disgust concerning them and their protector, in a letter to the grand leader of the revolution, Grand Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni, Mr. Montazeri wrote: Please instruct that the offenses and accusations against Seyyed Mehdi Hashemi and the related individuals be investigated thoroughly in accordance with the standards of Islamic justice lest his relationship with me or anyone else or considerations of respect for someone or other prevent investigations, because preservation of the honor of Islam and prevention of deviations to dear Islam, the sacred revolution, and the clerics take precedence in all respects.

Indeed, is the content of this letter, which was broadcast from the media proper and tells of the private views of Mr. Montazeri, or the letters which were exchanged in secret true? And based on what religious and revolutionary standard did he take a dual position? If he sincerely supported the investigation into the offenses and accusations against Mehdi Hashemi and his people, why, after the accusations were turned out to be decisive crimes and the ruling of the Islamic court was issued that he was belligerent and corrupt, did he write in a letter to the Imam that, "He is neither a heathen nor belligerent nor corrupt"? And he considers his only fault to be differences in method? On the other hand, he tells the people, "The judicial system must be independent and disregard influences by others."

[7 Aug p 11]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate and the merciful.

One of the fundamental principles of the Islamic revolution and the life-giving school of Islam, even the most fundamental principle of the school during the absence of the imam of the age and the age when the religious jurists are given authority, is the "principle of religious guardianship [velayat] and the centrality of views, opinions, and instructions of the leader of the Islamic society." The truth and correctness of the statements, positions, and actions of each member of the Islamic nation and various political and social movements are evaluated and ranked in comparison with the religious guardian and often the believers, due to their practiced nonconformity with the policies and instructions of the leader, become apostates and have set out toward the hell of God's wrath.

Undoubtedly, the first step in cooperation with the leader is a verbal declaration of allegiance and loyalty to his way and policy, which is an extremely desirable and valuable step. But the final evaluation takes place when the manifestations of this belief and expression of belief are revealed and become actualized. Here, the vast circle of believers and those who claim loyalty to the line of the religious guardian and leadership becomes tighter, and the pure are distinguished from the impure and the true

faithful from those motivated by self-interest, politics, and ambition. The same discrepancy exists between the numbers of those who claim to believe in the Koran and the number of those who act in accordance with the Koran.

The appearance of any action and reaction on the political scene as well as social relations can clarify the level of loyalty to and conviction of every Muslim individual concerning his own beliefs and statements in practice and in external reality. But the appearance of some phenomena in the life of a special group of human beings is considered the pivotal point and determines the fate of past actions and their future position. The Mehdi Hashemi incident and the attitude of Mr. Montazeri towards this event in regard to what the religious guardian wanted of him and expected is such an example.

The Mehdi Hashemi event and its side issues caused an individual [Montazeri] who had regarded himself "from the beginning of the struggle in all stages as a self-sacrificing, obedient soldier at the side of the leader and on the course of Islam and revolution" and "claimed the writing of hundreds of pages on the issue of religious guardianship and its scholarly explanation in a unique way" and who "for years was engaged in teaching that subject to seminary students" to deal with the decree of the religious guardian and his good will in such a way that the guardian of Muslims "asked God for death" and the Hezbollah people also recognize and identify him [Montazeri] as against religious guardianship. In this event, several distinct rulings which all pursued one goal presented in various forms were all issued by the religious guardian of Muslims addressed to Mr. Montazeri, which unfortunately he could not respond to proudly. Here we shall take a brief look at the advisory decrees:

1. In Tir 1367 [22 June-22 July 1988], when the issue of the election of Mr. Montazeri as deputy to the leader was discussed in the Assembly of Experts, Imam Khomeyni said in a message concerning future leadership: "Sinners and criminals have their eyes on you more than anyone else, and through deviant persons with influence in your homes, with thoroughly Islamic and revolutionary faces, they may, God forbid, create a disaster and with one deviant action, misdirect the regime and slap Islam and the Islamic Republic on the face with your hands. May God help you in the selection of your companions."

This message, despite its clarity, had no affect on and brought about no action by Mr. Montazeri.

2. In early 1365 [spring of 1986], four months prior to the arrest of Mehdi Hashemi, through the honorable Friday imam of Esfahan, the Imam sent a message to Mr. Montazeri:

"You must make an announcement that Mehdi Hashemi has no connection with you, that you do not approve of his actions and prohibit him from visiting your home."

Mr. Montazeri responded: "Well, let us see what will happen." The Friday imam of Esfahan said: "Sir, this is the order of the religious guardian. Do you not believe in and did you not teach it yourself?"

3. On 4 October 1986, after the arrest of Mehdi Hashemi, in a message written to guard the dignity of Mr. Montazeri, the imam wrote to him: "What I want of you is firstly your direct suggestion that the Ministry of Information intervene and investigate this matter (accusations against Mehdi Hashemi). If this is problematic for you in a way that would cause you to be excused from your religious duty, there is always 'silence.' Even in private circles, to defend such a person would be hazardous to your reputation and may cause corruption and the spilling of the blood of the innocent; it is the poison of the killer.... I emphasize that you distance yourself from connection with Seyyed Mehdi, for this is the better way. Otherwise, do not show any reaction to his investigation, because investigation of the crimes he is accused of is certain."

This good will message was also ignored.

4. After the strike of Mr. Montazeri following the arrest of Mehdi Hashemi, most graciously the Imam summoned him and in a meeting at the home of Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, in which the chiefs of the branches and the prime minister were also present, humbly asked him to "break his strike against the regime." And he added: "I request of you to let go of all this and do your work."

Again, Mr. Montazeri did not accept, so that two of those present in the meeting told him: "You believe in religious guardianship and, as you say, you have written 700 pages—up to that time—about the issue. Why do you not listen to the Imam?"

5. Following the first broadcast of Mehdi Hashemi, when Mr. Montazeri had already told Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani that if this interview were broadcast, he would take a position and speak against the Ministry of Information and issue a declaration, later, after the broadcast, when Mehdi Hashemi and his supporters were exposed to every acquaintance and stranger, Mr. Montazeri on 15 December 1986 in an open letter asked for a follow-up on the crimes and accusations against Mehdi Hashemi and those connected with him without mentioning that he was a relative of his. But when it came to dealing with the accusations against his son, Sa'id, and his son-in-law, Hadi Hashemi, he created a commotion, disrupting the investigation and the carriage of justice, such that Imam Khomeyni said: "Why does he go to them and not allow them to be treated as others? The ink has not yet dried on the letter he wrote to me requesting that they be treated in accordance with the regulations. Why does he act as he does?" And then, later, in the meeting of the minister of information of the time with him, the Imam said: "Deal with this issue decisively." But ultimately, the disruptions of Mr. Montazeri prevailed through the investigation of the matter

and Hadi Hashemi was sent from prison to exile, and from there he took refuge in the lap of Mr. Montazeri in Qom.

6. This sad story still continued until the dismissal of Mr. Montazeri. In a communique on 26 March 89, in addition to his dismissal, the imam emphasized several issues and requested of Mr. Montazeri: "He must admit his mistakes. He should not interfere in political affairs and no longer write letters. He should separate himself from those surrounding him. He should close his assemblies." And the same issues were repeated in a communique on 28 March 1989: In order not to repeat past mistakes, I advise you to rid your house of the traffic of opponents of the regime which pretend to be interested in Islam and the Islamic Republic. I have given you this warning concerning the issue of Mehdi Hashemi.

But now, with the passage of 16 months from that date, the instances of violations and opposition of Mr. Montazeri to the rulings and instructions of the religious guardian number in the dozens, and he continues shouting in public gatherings that he has been teaching religious guardianship for four years.

The words of God must be whispered in his ears: "Do you enjoin right conduct on the people and forget (to practise it) yourself, and yet ye study the scripture? Will ye not understand?"

For this reason, in order to evaluate the character of individuals, we cannot simply suffice with their speech, and the incident of Mehdi Hashemi was a good touchstone to evaluate Mr. Montazeri's belief in the instructions and directives of the religious guardian.

O God! Ordain an acceptable ending for us.

Pakistan

Bench To Examine Incidents at Lahore Court

BK0410170090 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] The Lahore High Court has taken a serious view of the incident of hooliganism and property destruction of the High Court, the interference in the conduct of court proceedings before all the judges of the high court by the hooligans on Tuesday [2 October], as well as their (?impediments) to steps of the agencies concerned to maintain the dignity and sanctity of the court. The chief justice, Mr. Justice Mohammad Rafiq Tarar of Lahore High Court, constituted in Lahore today, a full bench comprising Mr. Justice Nissar Hassan Khan, Mr. Justice Mohammad Arif, Mr. Justice Mohammad Amir Malik, Mr. Justice Mian Allah Nawaz, and Mr. Justice Khaleelur Rahman Mian Beg to take cognizance of the matter. The full bench will start proceedings starting on Saturday.

Cabinet Amends Political Parties, Kidnapping Acts

*BK0410171190 Islamabad Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 4 Oct 90*

[Text] The federal cabinet meeting in Islamabad today decided to fix at 180 rupees for 40 kg support price of wheat from the next crop to provide more incentives to the wheat growers. The cabinet meeting presided over by the prime minister, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, also approved an amendment bill to the Political Parties Act 1962 recommending that no member of the house will be disqualified unless he is given an opportunity of being heard by the election commission. It also approved an amendment to bring the options of kidnapping and abduction under purview of special courts constituted under the Suppression of Terrorist Activities Special Courts Act.

IJI Says Bhutto Wants To Provoke Martial Law

*BK0510110390 Hong Kong AFP in English 1038 GMT
5 Oct 90*

[Text] Lahore, Pakistan, Oct 5 (AFP)—The chief of the ruling Islamic Democratic Alliance (IJI) said here Friday that former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was trying to provoke the return of military rule in Pakistan. "She is probably not prepared for elections and wants either postponement or cancellation of elections" with the imposition of martial law, Mr. Sharif told foreign journalists.

The IJI leader cited what he called a "shameful act" two days ago when, he said, supporters of Ms. Bhutto stormed the Lahore High Court during her appearance before a special court on corruption charges. "If this is their attitude towards the judiciary, what respect they will have for democracy?" Mr. Sharif asked.

President Ghulam Ishaq Khan had earlier denounced what he said were "fascist" tendencies of Ms. Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP). Ms. Bhutto claimed that the rumpus at the court had been created by police

commandos infiltrated into the crowd by the caretaker Punjab provincial government. Mr. Sharif, 42, said PPP leaders had deliberately assembled a mob to hamper the trial of the former prime minister, who could be disqualified from politics if found guilty.

She is charged with the illegal sale of state land for a hotel project to a firm owned by a close relative and of nepotism in the grant of liquified gas distribution agencies. Her next appearance in the special court here is fixed for October 9. Mr. Sharif, a leading Punjabi industrialist, said that the PPP would not get more than 30 out of the 115 National Assembly seats at stake in the October 24 elections in populous Punjab Province.

In the 1988 elections that brought Ms. Bhutto power her party had secured 55 seats from the province. The National Assembly has a total membership of 237. The last assembly was dissolved by the president on August 6 when he dismissed the Bhutto government for alleged misrule and corruption. "The main election battle will take place in Punjab," Mr. Sahrif said, adding that "Ms. Bhutto is losing ground day by day and that is why she wants to upset the electoral process."

"She wants martial law in the country to be able to say goodbye to politics," the IJI leader said. He said that elections would not be delayed and the IJI was poised to win. Mr. Sharif, who is the pivotal leader in the multi-party alliance, did not hide his aspiration to future leadership of the country.

"I want to play a national role. The people welcome me as IJI chief," he said, adding that the next parliament would elect a prime minister but "it will keep the sentiments of the people in mind." He said he would not comment on the cases filed against Ms. Bhutto because the matter was before the judiciary.

"We prefer her to contest elections and want to defeat her at the polls, rather than the courts disqualifying her," Mr. Sharif said. He said the IJI manifesto would be made public "very soon," adding that "corruption" under Ms. Bhutto was the foremost issue in the elections.